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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 10

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES-TAIWAN BILATERAL INVESTMENT
AGREEMENT OR FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN
INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

WHEREAS, in 2015, New Mexico's exports to Taiwan reached
six million four hundred thousand dollars (\$6,400,000), making
Taiwan New Mexico's eighth-largest export market in Asia, and
twenty-fourth-largest export market in the world. In total,
eight hundred ninety-four jobs in New Mexico are supported by
Taiwanese-affiliated companies and industries related to the
export of goods and services to Taiwan. New Mexico companies
have substantial opportunities to expand their business and
economic cooperation with Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the ninth-largest trading partner of
the United States and the second-largest buyer of United States

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1 agricultural products. The two-way trade volume between the
2 United States and Taiwan was sixty-six billion six hundred
3 million dollars (\$66,600,000,000) in 2015. In total, Taiwan
4 supports an estimated three hundred twenty-four thousand five
5 hundred sixty-nine jobs in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, the signing of a free trade agreement and
7 bilateral investment agreement between the United States and
8 Taiwan would foster a more open and fair trade environment,
9 thereby creating greater export and investment opportunities
10 between markets. Negotiating a free-trade agreement and a
11 bilateral investment agreement would be a "win-win" strategy
12 that would not only stimulate mutual economic growth, but also
13 significantly strengthen job creation opportunities for both
14 countries; and

15 WHEREAS, both the United States government and congress
16 support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international
17 organizations, such as the world health organization, the
18 international civil aviation organization, the United Nations
19 framework convention on climate change and the international
20 criminal police organization. The New Mexico legislature has
21 echoed this support, passing a joint memorial in support of
22 Taiwan's international participation in 2013, 2014 and 2015,
23 respectively; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico and Taiwan established sister-state
25 relations thirty-two years ago, resulting in various mutual

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1 agreements, including Taiwan's signing of a mutual recognition
2 of driver's licenses and exchange of driver's licenses without
3 written and road tests with New Mexico, as well as nineteen
4 other states and Puerto Rico. In an effort to reinforce the
5 economic, cultural and tourist relations between New Mexico and
6 Taiwan, the executive branch of the state of New Mexico is
7 encouraged to sign a similar agreement with Taiwan this year;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, increasing interactions between high-ranking
10 public elected officials or lawmakers from New Mexico and
11 Taiwan would deepen ties between both sides, and it is
12 advocated and encouraged that the governor of New Mexico lead a
13 trade delegation to Taiwan in the coming year to advance
14 bilateral trade and investment relations between New Mexico and
15 Taiwan;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
17 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the United States congress and the
18 president of the United States be requested to support
19 negotiations for a United States-Taiwan free trade agreement
20 and bilateral investment agreement, Taiwan's participation in
21 international organizations, the signing of an agreement of
22 mutual recognition of driver's licenses and the exchange of
23 driver's licenses without written and road tests with Taiwan;
24 and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor of New Mexico be

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requested to visit Taiwan in the coming year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the president of the United States, the governor of New Mexico, the United States secretary of state and the United States trade representative.