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SENATE MEMORIAL 39

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Richard C. Martinez

A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN NEW MEXICO AND
TAIWAN; SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN BILATERAL TRADE
AGREEMENT AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS.

WHEREAS, the trade in goods and services between the
United States and the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan,
totaled an estimated ninety-four billion five hundred million
dollars (\$94,500,000,000) in 2018, with forty billion three
hundred million dollars (\$40,300,000,000) in exports and fifty-
four billion two hundred million dollars (\$54,200,000,000) in
imports, ranking Taiwan as the eleventh-largest trading partner
of the United States; and

WHEREAS, overall, Taiwan supports more than three hundred
seventy-three thousand jobs in the United States; and

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1 WHEREAS, Taiwan was New Mexico's twenty-second-largest
2 export market in 2018, with a total of thirteen million two
3 hundred thousand dollars (\$13,200,000) in exports from New
4 Mexico; and

5 WHEREAS, the bilateral trade between New Mexico and Taiwan
6 has reached eighty-two million seven hundred seventy thousand
7 dollars (\$82,770,000); and

8 WHEREAS, an investment of fifty-two million six hundred
9 thousand dollars (\$52,600,000) was derived from Taiwan in 2018;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, in total, more than one thousand two hundred nine
12 jobs in New Mexico are supported by Taiwan-affiliated companies
13 and the exports of goods and services to Taiwan; and

14 WHEREAS, strengthening investment ties between New Mexico
15 and Taiwan can be mutually beneficial because New Mexico is
16 rich in oil and gas, and over ninety-five percent of Taiwan's
17 energy is imported from abroad; and

18 WHEREAS, companies in New Mexico have substantial
19 opportunities to expand their business and economic cooperation
20 with Taiwan; and

21 WHEREAS, the signing of a bilateral trade agreement
22 between the United States and Taiwan would foster a more open
23 and fair trade environment, thereby creating greater export and
24 investment opportunities between markets; and

25 WHEREAS, negotiating a bilateral trade agreement would be

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1 a win-win strategy that would not only stimulate mutual
2 economic growth but would also significantly increase jobs in
3 both countries; and

4 WHEREAS, New Mexico and Taiwan established sister-state
5 relations in 1985, resulting in various mutual agreements,
6 including New Mexico's and Taiwan's signing of both a mutual
7 recognition and exchange of driver's licenses without written
8 or road tests and a memorandum of understanding on higher
9 education in 2018; and

10 WHEREAS, in an effort to reinforce the economic, cultural
11 and tourist relations between New Mexico and Taiwan, the
12 executive branch of New Mexico's government is encouraged to
13 sign an agreement or memorandum of understanding on energy and
14 trade with Taiwan in 2020; and

15 WHEREAS, on July 12, 2013, the president of the United
16 States signed into law H.R.1151, an act supporting Taiwan's
17 participation as an observer in the international civil
18 aviation organization; and

19 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2016, the president of the United
20 States signed into law S.2426, an act directing the United
21 States secretary of state to develop a strategy to obtain
22 observer status for Taiwan in the international criminal police
23 organization; and

24 WHEREAS, the United States supports Taiwan's meaningful
25 participation in international organizations such as the world

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1 health organization, the international civil aviation
2 organization, the United Nations framework convention on
3 climate change and the international criminal police
4 organization; and

5 WHEREAS, joint memorials in support of Taiwan's
6 international participation have been introduced in the New
7 Mexico legislature in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2018 and 2019;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the federal Taiwan Travel Act became law in March
10 2018 and was supported by the American legislative exchange
11 council in August 2018; and

12 WHEREAS, increasing interactions between high-ranking
13 public elected officials and lawmakers from New Mexico and
14 Taiwan would strengthen ties between the two sides; and

15 WHEREAS, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and New Mexico
16 legislators are encouraged to lead a trade delegation to Taiwan
17 in 2020 to advance bilateral trade and investment opportunities
18 between New Mexico and Taiwan and tourism, cultural and
19 educational exchange opportunities between New Mexico and
20 Taiwan;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
22 OF NEW MEXICO that it support the negotiation of a bilateral
23 trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan, Taiwan's
24 participation in international organizations, the signing of an
25 agreement on energy and trade with Taiwan and a visit by

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1 Governor Lujan Grisham and New Mexico legislators to Taiwan in
2 2020; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
4 transmitted to the president of the United States, members of
5 New Mexico's congressional delegation, the United States
6 secretary of state and the United States trade representative.

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