
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENTER INTO A
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH TAIWAN.

1 WHEREAS, the statistics on trade activity between the
2 United States and Taiwan are impressive; and

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4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth largest trading
5 partner, eleventh largest export market, and fifth largest farm
6 products market; and

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8 WHEREAS, in 2006, the trade flow between the United States
9 and Taiwan totaled \$61,200,000,000, and the cumulative United
10 States investment in Taiwan amounted to \$15,000,000,000; and

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12 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been actively seeking a bilateral free
13 trade agreement with the United States; and

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15 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement may provide more
16 opportunities for United States companies to invest in and
17 export to Taiwan; and

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19 WHEREAS, United States consumers may also benefit from
20 products made in Taiwan; and

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22 WHEREAS, Taiwan is currently a member of the World Trade
23 Organization and a party to many economic and trade agreements
24 with various countries; and

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26 WHEREAS, the United States concluded a free trade agreement
27 with South Korea on April 2, 2007; and

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29 WHEREAS, the structure of Taiwan's and South Korea's
30 exports to the United States are very similar, with both
31 consisting primarily of manufactured goods; and



1 WHEREAS, the United States' free trade agreement with South
2 Korea creates a trade disparity in that it will have a very
3 negative impact upon Taiwan's economy, resulting in a
4 substantial weakening of the United States' competitiveness in
5 the international market; and

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7 WHEREAS, it is urgent that Taiwan be on the same
8 competitive footing in the United States market as South Korea
9 in order to sustain continuing economic growth for Taiwan, which
10 is in the best interest of the United States internationally;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, in 2006, 35 state houses or senates or both, in 23
14 states, passed resolutions to express support of a free trade
15 agreement between the United States and Taiwan; and

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17 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement with Taiwan may enable the
18 United States to indirectly facilitate the participation of
19 Taiwan in multilateral Asian trade agreements; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the
24 United States is urged to enter into a free trade agreement with
25 Taiwan; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United
28 States is requested to undertake negotiations for a free trade
29 agreement with Taiwan in a manner that respects the interests of
30 all countries in the East Asian region; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of Taiwan,
34 President of the United States, and each member of Hawaii's
35 Congressional Delegation.

