
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

3
4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth largest trading
5 partner, eleventh largest export market, and fifth largest farm
6 products market; and

7
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

11
12 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been actively seeking a bilateral free
13 trade agreement with the United States; and

14
15 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement may provide more
16 opportunities for United States companies to invest in and
17 export to Taiwan; and

18
19 WHEREAS, United States consumers may also benefit from
20 products made in Taiwan; and

21
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

25
26 WHEREAS, the United States concluded a free trade agreement
27 with South Korea on April 2, 2007; and

28
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
32



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

6
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 a continuing economic growth for Taiwan,
10 which is in the best interest of the United States
11 internationally; and

12
13 WHEREAS, in 2006, thirty-five state houses or senates or
14 both, in twenty-three states, passed resolutions to express
15 support of a free trade agreement between the United States and
16 Taiwan; and

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

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

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

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

