
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION TO NEGOTIATE A FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT WITH TAIWAN.

1 WHEREAS, a longstanding, close bilateral relationship,
2 codified in the federal Taiwan Relations Act, has existed
3 between the United States and Taiwan and has proven
4 economically, culturally, and strategically important to both
5 countries; and

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7 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a robust democracy, significant United
8 States trading partner, and an important and strategic United
9 States ally; and

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11 WHEREAS, together, Taiwan and the United States promote a
12 shared belief in freedom, democracy, and market principles; and

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14 WHEREAS, Taiwan has consistently ranked among the top
15 twelve United States trading partners for over two decades; and

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17 WHEREAS, according to 2008 data, the United States is
18 Taiwan's third-largest trading partner, and Taiwan is the United
19 States' twelfth-largest trading partner; and

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21 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement between Taiwan and the
22 United States would build on their existing strong relations to
23 simultaneously boost Taiwan's security and democracy and serve
24 the broader interests of the United States in the Asia-Pacific
25 region; and

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27 WHEREAS, a free trade agreement between Taiwan and the
28 United States would encourage greater innovation and
29 manufacturing efficiencies by stimulating joint technological
30 development, practical applications, and new cooperative
31 ventures; and

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33 WHEREAS, Taiwan has become the world's largest producer of
34 information technology hardware and ranks first in the



1 production of notebook computers, monitors, motherboards, and
2 scanners; and

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4 WHEREAS, the United States is a significant supplier of
5 electrical machinery and appliances, transport equipment,
6 scientific instruments, and chemical products to Taiwan; and

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8 WHEREAS, a 2002 United States International Trade
9 Commission report found that exports by some sectors of the
10 United States economy, including automobiles, agricultural
11 products, and research medicines, would increase significantly
12 in percentage terms if the United States entered into a free
13 trade agreement with Taiwan; and

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15 WHEREAS, Taiwan was admitted to the World Trade
16 Organization in January 2002, resulting in reduced Taiwanese
17 tariffs and increased market access for foreign investment; and

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19 WHEREAS, as a member of the World Trade Organization,
20 Taiwan is entitled to the same rights as any other member nation
21 to enter into free trade agreements with other countries of its
22 choosing; and

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24 WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China is initiating
25 negotiations on an economic cooperation framework agreement with
26 Taiwan; and

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28 WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China and Taiwan have
29 opened air transport links with each other; and

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31 WHEREAS, the European Chamber of Commerce has urged Taiwan
32 to sign a free trade agreement with the European Union; now,
33 therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
36 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
37 Session of 2013, that this body supports the negotiation of a
38 free trade agreement between Taiwan and the United States; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body encourages the
41 President of the United States to launch negotiations as soon as
42 possible with Taiwan for the establishment of a free trade
43 agreement between the two democracies; and

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H.R. NO. 123

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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
3 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
4 the Chairpersons and ranking members of the United States Senate
5 Committee on Finance and the United States House of
6 Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, the United States
7 Trade Representative, the United States Secretary of Commerce,
8 the United States Secretary of Labor, the Director of the United
9 States Office of Management and Budget, the President of Taiwan,
10 the President of Taiwan's Legislative Yuan, and the
11 Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural
12 Representative Office in the United States.

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OFFERED BY:

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