

Testimony by Mr. V.C. Chu, Director General of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office

In support of S.R. NO.8 S.D.1 Proposed- THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S (TAIWAN) PARTICIPATION IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (TPP).

In 2009, President Obama announced *Rebalancing to Asia*. The implications of the policy include not only the political, security and strategic levels; through the Asia-Pacific countries must integrate into the regional economic organizations as well. The US-led TPP is relatively getting important.

In his 2014 New Year Address, President Ma Ying-jeou announced that Taiwan will make its best efforts to participate in TPP and other regional economic integration mechanism for our own and international community's benefits.

Taiwan is full members of WTO and APEC, and it interacts with the member economies equally and positively over the years. It is also committed to multilateral economic development and participates actively in the negotiations and initiatives. However, as you know, APEC is a loose organization and lots of issues and negotiations in WTO are stalled. Instead, bilateral and regional free trade agreements have become the trends of the world.

In 2013, Taiwan has signed economic agreements respectively with New Zealand and Singapore, members of TPP. The scopes of these two agreements are much wider than those of WTO and APEC. Taiwan has a very close relationship with TPP members, and trade between Taiwan and the 12 TPP members account for 35% of its total foreign trade. If Taiwan joins the TPP, it will be the 6th-largest economy in TPP. Taiwan is ready and qualified to join TPP as a member to provide more contributions to the international economic community. We believe that our participation in TPP not only share the fruits of free trade among the TPP members, but also further enhance and strengthen the bonds of businesses between the people of Taiwan and USA.

Hawaii and Taiwan enjoy a closed relationship. I appreciate your long-term support. I also would like to thank you, Chair English and members of TIA to take initiative step in drafting this meaningful resolution to urge the United States to support the ROC's (Taiwan) participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 11:03 PM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: renie.lindley@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR8 on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM
Attachments: The Trans Pacific Partnership is a major trade pact.docx

SR8

Submitted on: 4/11/2014

Testimony for TIA on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Renie Lindley	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Don't add this TPP language into this Resolution

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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The Trans Pacific Partnership is a major trade pact, much bigger than NAFTA, being negotiated in secret by the US and many other Pacific Rim Countries.

- 600 lobbyists mostly from multinational corporations are active in the negotiations but elected representatives are excluded.
- The TPP is not mainly about trade Its real purpose is to help global corporations sue governments in an international trade tribunal, to force governments to abandon laws that protect the public, workers and the environment.
- The TPP threatens internet privacy and innovation.
- The TPP accelerates the “race to the bottom” by threatening many important safeguards in business:
 - Undermines financial industry regulations
 - Dismantles “Buy Local” preferences
 - Restricts countries from providing generic drugs or negotiating lower drug prices for their residents
 - Challenges food safety, chemical safety, and labeling requirements
 - Threatens environmental policy, and further delays action on climate change

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2014 10:07 PM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: ronsan2224@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR8 on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM

SR8

Submitted on: 4/11/2014

Testimony for TIA on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald S. Fujiyoshi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Senators, I strongly oppose SR8 SD1. The Trans-Pacific Partnership is larger than NAFTA. All that I have heard about the Trans-Pacific Partnership is not good. If not studied carefully, it will hurt, rather than help, relationships with especially smaller nations in the Pacific/Asia region. This is being attached to a completely different resolution building good sister-sister relations with a city in the Philippines. The students in Taiwan have been laying their lives on the line in sitting-in their legislature. Do not diss their efforts by giving the giant corporations who will benefit by the Trans-Pacific Partnership unfair advantage. Vote this resolution down and first have experts come to educate all of us on the pros and cons of this Trans-Pacific Partnership. Mahalo for the opportunity to share my voice.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 10:50 AM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR8 on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM

SR8

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for TIA on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kerri Marks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose the US' involvement with the TPP negotiations and oppose supporting any other countries entering the trade pact until some clarity and transparency are put in place. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) threatens to extend restrictive intellectual property (IP) laws across the globe and rewrite international rules on its enforcement. Leaked draft texts of the agreement show that the IP chapter would have extensive negative ramifications for users' freedom of speech, right to privacy and due process, and hinder peoples' abilities to innovate. US negotiators are pushing for the adoption of copyright measures far more restrictive than currently required by international treaties. TPP raises significant concerns about citizens' freedom of expression, due process, innovation, the future of the Internet's global infrastructure, and the right of sovereign nations to develop policies and laws that best meet their domestic priorities. In sum, the TPP puts at risk some of the most fundamental rights that enable access to knowledge for the world's citizens. Please OPPOSE SR8 and instead demand some transparency from President Obama. Kerri Marks Hilo, HI

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: TIATestimony
Cc: ponosize@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR8 on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM*

SR8

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for TIA on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pono Kealoha	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 11:52 AM
To: TIATestimony
Cc: arnie@imipono.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SR8 on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM
Attachments: Oppose SR8.txt

SR8

Submitted on: 4/14/2014

Testimony for TIA on Apr 14, 2014 15:01PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arnie Saiki	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Honorable Kalani English and Donovan Dela Cruz I **strongly oppose SR8** on the grounds that this resolution is duplicitous and is using both the Philippines and Taiwan to further escalate military tensions between the US and China. It should be known that reestablishing relations between the State of Hawaii and the Province of Ilocos Norte of the Republic of the Philippines includes extending commitments with Governor Imee Marcos, the daughter of deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, and where Clark Air Force base is located. Not coincidentally, there have also been ongoing military skirmishes with China over the long-time contested Spratly islands. We also not want to see Hawaii committed to the militarization of the "Trans Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership." President Ma of Taiwan has close relations to both Washington and Beijing, and although there have been recent protests against Taiwan joining Beijing's Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership-- China's version of the TPP-- we do not want to see any further escalation of violence in Taiwan over participation in the TPP as this will only further encourage military tensions. Although it may not be so apparent, SR8 is tied to committee hearings recently held in Washington on the "Rebalancing to Asia" by the House Armed Services Committee, and we do not want to use the TPP as a measure to contain China in such a way, that will force China to have to respond to any kind of economic or strategic containment strategy that seeks to choke and militarize China's shipping and trade. Honorable members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs, if you are proposing to create these partnerships as a means to show strategic and military support, please do so and we can address those resolutions directly, but I ask that you not use SR8 as a back door for militarization. Also, understanding that the Center for Pacific Command is tasked with providing security to both the US and our allies, SR8 should not be used as a means to escalate regional tensions just because Hawaii is at the center of the Pacific theater. Hawaii needs to uphold the principle of peace in the Pacific and SR8 provokes a very dangerous agenda that threatens regional stability. I strongly oppose SR8. Arnie Saiki Coordinator - Moana Nui Action Alliance (808) 218-4367 <http://imipono.org>

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