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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 23

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014**

INTRODUCED BY

Christine Trujillo

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S (TAIWAN'S) MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, A UNITED STATES-TAIWAN BILATERAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENT AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP.

WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) became Asia's first republic in 1911 and, over the past two decades, has been praised as a beacon of democracy for Asia, having made great strides toward entering the world arena as a trusted partner; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is not currently permitted to join many international organizations, which prevents the country from making significant contributions in such areas as economics, aviation, health and climate; and

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1           WHEREAS, a delegation from Taiwan was invited to  
2 participate in the thirty-eighth international civil aviation  
3 organization assembly, which was the first time since Taiwan  
4 was excluded from assembly meetings in 1971, as guests of the  
5 council president; and

6           WHEREAS, Taiwan's absence from international organizations  
7 dealing with airline safety and security has left a gap in the  
8 international aviation security system, as Taiwan is a key  
9 transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region and has one of the  
10 world's largest airports by cargo volume, Taoyuan international  
11 airport; and

12           WHEREAS, meaningful participation by the government of  
13 Taiwan as an observer in the international civil aviation  
14 organization meetings and activities will contribute both to  
15 the fulfillment of that organization's overarching mission and  
16 to the success of a global strategy to address aviation  
17 security threats based on effective international cooperation;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, although Taiwan has yet to be permitted  
20 participation as an observer in the United Nations framework  
21 convention on climate change process, it still aspires to be a  
22 part of global efforts to protect the environment for future  
23 generations; and

24           WHEREAS, since May 2009, Taiwan's department of health has  
25 been invited for five consecutive years to attend the world

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1 health assembly as an observer under the designation "Chinese  
2 Taipei"; and

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan, which stands as the United States'  
4 eleventh-largest trading partner, and the United States, which  
5 stands as Taiwan's third-largest trading partner, have engaged  
6 in high-level ministerial discussions under the trade and  
7 investment framework agreement in order to move toward a  
8 bilateral investment agreement; and

9 WHEREAS, Taiwan actively seeks meaningful ways to improve  
10 trade relations with other nations, especially the United  
11 States, by preparing for induction into the Trans-Pacific  
12 partnership in order to create greater multilateral interaction  
13 in the Asia-Pacific region; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan signed the 2010 Economic Cooperation  
15 Framework Agreement and the 2013 Cross-Strait Service Trade  
16 Agreement on Trade in Services with mainland China, making  
17 Taiwan the most viable gateway for American enterprises aimed  
18 at the Asia-Pacific market as well as an established business  
19 hub for foreign enterprises; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan hopes that trade relations with the United  
21 States will ultimately lead to a free trade agreement, which  
22 would usher in an unprecedented level of commercial prosperity  
23 and transparency between the two nations; and

24 WHEREAS, a United States-Taiwan bilateral investment  
25 agreement or free trade agreement will strengthen economic

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1 growth for both nations, as well as provide a gateway into  
2 Taiwan and mainland China for American foreign direct  
3 investment; and

4 WHEREAS, as of 2013, Taiwan ranks first in foreign direct  
5 investment to mainland China, third to Vietnam and Thailand and  
6 fourth to Malaysia; and

7 WHEREAS, Taiwan signed free trade agreements respectively  
8 with New Zealand and Singapore in 2013, and signed a bilateral  
9 investment agreement with Japan in 2011; and

10 WHEREAS, Taiwan seeks to contribute to peace, freedom and  
11 security in the world as a responsible stakeholder and  
12 peaceable nation of twenty-three million citizens through  
13 Taiwanese policies such as "viable diplomacy" in foreign  
14 affairs and its pragmatic approach to relations with mainland  
15 China; and

16 WHEREAS, former United States Secretary of State Hillary  
17 Clinton publicly acknowledged Taiwan as an important economic  
18 and security partner of the United States at the 2011 Asia-  
19 Pacific economic cooperation conference; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan was designated as a participant in the  
21 United States visa waiver program in 2012, mutually benefitting  
22 bilateral economic and cultural exchanges between Taiwan and  
23 the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, New Mexico has had a strong economic and cultural  
25 relationship with Taiwan since establishing sister-state

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1 relations in 1985 and sister-city relations between Albuquerque  
2 and Hualien city in 1983; and

3 WHEREAS, a New Mexico state legislature delegation  
4 consisting of senators Mary Kay Papen, Cisco McSorley, Steven  
5 P. Neville, Sander Rue and Benny Shendo, Jr., representatives  
6 Sharon Clahchischilliage, Doreen Y. Gallegos, Rodolpho "Rudy"  
7 S. Martinez, Debbie A. Rodella, Christine Trujillo and Monica  
8 Youngblood and Ms. Erlinda Campbell conducted an official visit  
9 to Taiwan in April 2013, recognizing Taiwan's democratic and  
10 economic achievements as well as the importance for New Mexico  
11 government to bolster future bilateral economic and trade  
12 exchanges with Taiwan;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
14 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the congress and the president of the  
15 United States be requested to support the efforts of Taiwan to  
16 be granted observer status by certain international  
17 organizations and agreements, including the international civil  
18 aviation organization, the United Nations framework convention  
19 on climate change and the world health organization; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the congress and the president  
21 of the United States be requested to support Taiwan's  
22 participation in the Trans-Pacific partnership and continuing  
23 trade and investment framework agreement talks discussing the  
24 signing of a bilateral investment agreement with the United  
25 States; and

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

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state of New Mexico  
7 continue to support economic, cultural and trade exchanges with  
8 Taiwan through an official trade delegation visit to Taiwan for  
9 the purpose of enhancing New Mexico's economic outreach to the  
10 Asia-Pacific market.