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

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

WHEREAS, Taiwan's absence from international organizations dealing with airline safety and security has left a gap in the international aviation security system, as Taiwan is a key transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region and

has one of the world's largest airports by cargo volume,
Taoyuan international airport; and

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

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

WHEREAS, since May 2009, Taiwan's department of health has been invited for five consecutive years to attend the world health assembly as an observer under the designation "Chinese Taipei"; and

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

WHEREAS, Taiwan actively seeks meaningful ways to

improve trade relations with other nations, especially the United States, by preparing for induction into the Trans-Pacific partnership in order to create greater multilateral interaction in the Asia-Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan signed the 2010 Economic Cooperation

Framework Agreement and the 2013 Cross-Strait Service Trade

Agreement on Trade in Services with mainland China, making

Taiwan the most viable gateway for American enterprises aimed at the Asia-Pacific market as well as an established business hub for foreign enterprises; and

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

WHEREAS, a United States-Taiwan bilateral investment agreement or free trade agreement will strengthen economic growth for both nations, as well as provide a gateway into Taiwan and mainland China for American foreign direct investment; and

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

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

and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, New Mexico has had a strong economic and cultural relationship with Taiwan since establishing sister-state relations in 1985 and sister-city relations between Albuquerque and Hualien city in 1983; and

WHEREAS, a New Mexico state legislature delegation consisting of senators Mary Kay Papen, Cisco McSorley, Steven P. Neville, Sander Rue and Benny Shendo, Jr., representatives Sharon Clahchischilliage, Doreen Y. Gallegos, Rodolpho "Rudy" S. Martinez, Debbie A. Rodella, Christine Trujillo and Monica Youngblood and

Ms. Erlinda Campbell conducted an official visit to Taiwan in April 2013, recognizing Taiwan's democratic and economic achievements as well as the importance for New Mexico government to bolster future bilateral economic and trade exchanges with Taiwan;

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

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state of New Mexico

1	continue to support economic, cultural and trade exchanges	
2	with Taiwan through an official trade delegation visit to	
3	Taiwan for the purpose of enhancing New Mexico's economic	
4	outreach to the Asia-Pacific market	
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