



2023 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 124

February 19, 2024 - Introduced by Senators TESTIN, JACQUE, ROYS and LARSON, cosponsored by Representatives KITCHENS, AUGUST, PLUMER, TRANEL, BILLINGS, MCGUIRE, ALLEN, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BINSFELD, CALLAHAN, DITTRICH, EDMING, JACOBSON, KRUG, MAGNAFICI, O'CONNOR, ORTIZ-VELEZ, PENTERMAN, RETTINGER, SCHMIDT, SCHUTT, SWEARINGEN, TITTL and WITKE. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** reaffirming Wisconsin's commitment to the strengthening and
2 deepening of the sister ties between the State of Wisconsin and Taiwan;
3 reaffirming Wisconsin's support of the Taiwan Relations Act; supporting
4 Taiwan's signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement with the United States; and
5 continuing support for increasing Taiwan's international profile.

6 Whereas, the State of Wisconsin established in 1986 the sister-state
7 relationship with Taiwan Province, Republic of China (Taiwan), and Wisconsin and
8 Taiwan have enjoyed strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchanges, and
9 tourism; and

10 Whereas, Taiwan shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights,
11 the rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States and the State of
12 Wisconsin; and

13 Whereas, in 2022, the United States ranked as Taiwan's second-largest trading
14 partner, Taiwan ranked as the ninth-largest trading partner of the United States,
15 and bilateral trade reached an estimated \$160 billion; and

1 Whereas, Taiwan imported nearly \$4.4 billion worth of U.S. farm products in
2 2022, making it the seventh-largest market for U.S. agricultural products overall,
3 the fourth-largest market on a per capita basis, and the seventh-largest market for
4 U.S. soybeans and corn; and

5 Whereas, due to its high quality produce, the U.S. remains one of Taiwan's
6 largest sources of agricultural products, supplying more than one-fifth of the
7 country's major agricultural imports; and

8 Whereas, Taiwan and the State of Wisconsin have enjoyed a long and mutually
9 beneficial relationship with the prospect of future growth, and Taiwan was
10 Wisconsin's sixth-largest export market in Asia in 2022, with \$307 million worth of
11 Wisconsin goods exported to Taiwan; and

12 Whereas, to strengthen the Taiwan-Wisconsin bilateral economic relationship,
13 it is essential to support Wisconsin businesses to enhance their economic
14 engagement with Taiwan based on the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act (P.L. 96-8, 22
15 U.S.C. 3301); section 4, subsection (b), of the act stipulates that "[w]henver the laws
16 of the United States refer or relate to foreign countries, nations, states, governments,
17 or similar entities, such terms shall include and such laws shall apply with respect
18 to Taiwan"; and

19 Whereas, negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement between Taiwan and
20 the United States is an important step toward further strengthening bilateral trade
21 between our countries, thereby increasing Wisconsin's exports to Taiwan and
22 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration through tariff reduction
23 and other trade facilitation measures; and

24 Whereas, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "steadfast diplomacy" in its
25 international relations and Taiwan is capable of, and willing to, fulfill its

1 responsibilities and to collaborate with the world to face challenges such as
2 humanitarian aid and disease control; now, therefore, be it

3 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
4 Legislature reaffirms its commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the
5 sister ties between the State of Wisconsin and Taiwan; and, be it further

6 ***Resolved, That*** the Wisconsin Legislature reaffirms its support for the Taiwan
7 Relations Act; and, be it further

8 ***Resolved, That*** Wisconsin endorses Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of
9 a Bilateral Trade Agreement with the United States, and reiterates its support for
10 a closer economic and trade partnership between the State of Wisconsin and Taiwan;
11 and, be it further

12 ***Resolved, That*** Wisconsin continues to support Taiwan's appropriate
13 participation in international organizations that impact the health, safety, and
14 well-being of the people of Taiwan and supports Taiwan's aspiration to make more
15 contributions in international societies; and, be it further

16 ***Resolved, That*** the chief clerk of the assembly is hereby directed to transmit
17 copies of this resolution to the members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation
18 and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago.

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(END)