



## 2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 48

May 4, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives KULP, TRANEL, THIESFELDT, GANNON, KERKMAN, STEFFEN, MACCO, RIPP, E. BROOKS, KRUG, KNODL, VANDERMEER and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN and LASEE. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1     **Relating to:** supporting Taiwan's signing of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and  
2             Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) with the United States and reaffirming  
3             support for increasing Taiwan's international profile and for strengthening and  
4             expanding sister-state ties between Wisconsin and Taiwan.

5             Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is proud of the sister-state relationship it has  
6             enjoyed with the Republic of China (Taiwan) since 1986, which is marked by strong  
7             bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, and tourism; and

8             Whereas, Taiwan shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights,  
9             the rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States and the state of  
10            Wisconsin; and

11            Whereas, the United States ranks as Taiwan's second-largest trading partner,  
12            Taiwan ranks as the ninth-largest trading partner of the United States, and  
13            bilateral trade reached \$66.6 billion in 2015; and

14            Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin have enjoyed a long and mutually  
15            beneficial relationship with the prospect of future growth, and Taiwan was

1 Wisconsin's seventh-largest export market in 2015, with \$184 million worth of  
2 Wisconsin goods exported to Taiwan; and

3       Whereas, negotiations for a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) between  
4 Taiwan and the United States are an important step toward further strengthening  
5 bilateral trade and paving the way for entering into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA)  
6 between our countries, thereby increasing Wisconsin's exports to Taiwan and  
7 creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration through tariff reduction  
8 and other trade facilitation measures; and

9       Whereas, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "steadfast diplomacy" in its  
10 international relations and is capable of and willing to fulfill its responsibilities and  
11 collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aids, disease  
12 control, and so forth; now, therefore, be it

13       ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin  
14 legislature reaffirms its commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the  
15 sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin; and, be it  
16 further

17       ***Resolved, That*** Wisconsin endorses Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of  
18 the FTA and the BIA with the United States; and, be it further

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

