

State of Misconsin 2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 76

February 20, 2014 – Introduced by Senators SCHULTZ and LASSA, cosponsored by Representatives TRANEL, BIES, WILLIAMS, MARKLEIN, KNODL, KAUFERT and KULP. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1	Relating to: reaffirming Wisconsin's commitment to its relationship with Taiwan,
2	supporting Taiwan's efforts to secure entry to the Trans–Pacific Partnership,
3	the signing of a bilateral investment agreement between Taiwan and the
4	United States, and supporting Taiwan's participation in the United Nations
5	Framework Convention on Climate Change.
6	Whereas, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the United States, and in
7	particular the state of Wisconsin, share sister-city and sister-state relationships
8	marked by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, and tourism;
9	and
10	Whereas, Taiwan shares with the United States and the state of Wisconsin the
11	common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and rule of law; and
12	Whereas, the United States ranks as Taiwan's third largest trading partner,
13	Taiwan is the eleventh largest trading partner of the United States, and bilateral
14	trade reached \$63 billion in 2012; and

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1	Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin have enjoyed a long and mutually
2	beneficial relationship and anticipate continuing growth, with Taiwan ranking as
3	Wisconsin's 23rd largest export destination in 2012, with \$192.3 million worth of
4	Wisconsin goods shipped to Taiwan, including industrial machinery, computer and
5	electronic products, and agricultural and paper products; and
6	Whereas, Taiwan, seeking to contribute to greater regional integration in the
7	Asia-Pacific region and promotion of bilateral investment and trade relations with
8	the United States, applauds the announcement by the United States of its intent not
9	only to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the proposed 21st-century trade
10	agreement between the United States and 11 Asia-Pacific Rim countries, but to
11	expand the partnership's membership in the future to include other countries, such
12	as Taiwan; and
13	Whereas, Taiwan, an important economic power, a dynamic market economy,
14	and a leading supplier of high-tech products, is the 17th largest economy, 14th
15	largest exporter, and 16th largest importer in the world; and
16	Whereas, Taiwan ranked as the 17th freest country in the world according to
17	the Heritage Foundation's 2014 Index of Economic Freedom; and
18	Whereas, the fifth largest of 41 economies in the Asia–Pacific region should be
19	included in regional economic integration; and
20	Whereas, negotiations for a bilateral investment agreement between Taiwan
21	and the United States are an important step toward further strengthening bilateral
22	trade and paving the way for entering into a free trade agreement between our two
23	countries, thereby increasing Wisconsin's exports to Taiwan and creating bilateral
24	investment and technical collaboration through tariff reduction and other trade
25	facilitation measures; and

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1	Whereas, Taiwan can be a valuable and constructive partner in the
2	international response to natural disasters and severe weather emergencies, as
3	evidenced by Taiwan's speedy and generous response to aid the victims of Typhoon
4	Haiyan, which caused serious damage to the Philippines in November 2013, with a
5	donation of \$10.19 million in U.S. dollars; and
6	Whereas, Taiwan's membership in international organizations, such as the
7	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, would greatly enhance
8	Taiwan's ability to participate in global climate initiatives and to respond to natural
9	disasters such as Typhoon Haiyan; now, therefore, be it
10	Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That Wisconsin
11	reaffirms its commitment to the strong and deepening sister-city and sister-state
12	relationships between Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin; and, be it further
13	Resolved, That Wisconsin supports Taiwan's efforts to secure entry to the
14	Trans–Pacific Partnership; and, be it further
15	Resolved, That Wisconsin extends its support for Taiwan's appropriate
16	participation in international organizations, such as the United Nations Framework
17	Convention on Climate Change, that impact the health, safety, and well-being of
18	Taiwan and its people.
19	(END)