

1 HR507  
2 181214-2  
3 By Representative Johnson (K)  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 18-MAY-17

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8 TO COMMEND AND SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA  
9 (TAIWAN) FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES; AND FOR  
10 OTHER PURPOSES.

11  
12 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the  
13 United States are long-standing allies who both deeply cherish  
14 the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the  
15 rule of law; and

16 WHEREAS, in the year of 2016, the Republic of China  
17 (Taiwan) held its sixth direct presidential election and again  
18 demonstrated the strength and vitality of its democratic  
19 system, paving the way for Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in  
20 Asia and beyond; Tsai Ing-wen was elected as the 14th  
21 President of Taiwan, becoming the first female president in  
22 the country's history, and along with her Vice President Chen  
23 Chien-jen, she hopes to continue to build the country's  
24 already rich tradition of economic vitality, cultural growth,  
25 and innovation; and

26 WHEREAS, Taiwan serves the best interests of the  
27 Asia-Pacific region in the continuation of stability and

1 growth; Taiwan and mainland China have signed more than 20  
2 agreements in the past decade, and U.S. businesses can  
3 collaborate with innovative Taiwanese companies in Taiwan's  
4 comprehensive protection of intellectual property rights,  
5 facilitating entry into mainland China and other key Asian  
6 markets; and

7 WHEREAS, since 1983, the State of Alabama and Taiwan  
8 have enjoyed long, cordial, and mutually beneficial  
9 sister-state relations, a friendship that continues to  
10 strengthen with each passing year; and

11 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest  
12 trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's  
13 second-largest trading partner; and

14 WHEREAS, the designation of Taiwan into the United  
15 States' Visa Waiver Program is a significant step to draw  
16 travelers from Taiwan choosing the United States as their  
17 destination for trade, investment, and recreation; the MOU of  
18 Reciprocal Driver's License also benefit bilateral relations  
19 between Taiwan and Alabama; and

20 WHEREAS, by working with Taiwan, Alabama welcomes  
21 all opportunities for an even closer economic partnership,  
22 such as the signing of a US-Taiwan Bilateral Investment  
23 Agreement and a Free Trade Agreement in order to enhance the  
24 special sister-state bond between Alabama and Taiwan and to  
25 encourage further cultural, educational, and business  
26 exchanges between the citizens of both nations; and

1                   WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member in the  
2 international community with a long history of commitment to  
3 international health and humanitarian aid as well as  
4 environmental protection; now therefore,

5                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
6 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the members of this body  
7 commend and support the democratization efforts of Taiwan and  
8 the nation's meaningful participation in the World Health  
9 Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization,  
10 as well as other international organizations, and extend our  
11 most sincere best wishes for continued cooperation and  
12 success.

13                   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House  
14 of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an  
15 appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Vincent Liu,  
16 Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in  
17 Atlanta.