## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

## BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

## A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF A STRONG AND ENDURING PARTNERSHIP WITH TAIWAN, AND SUPPORTING TAIWAN'S MEANING-FUL PARTICIPATION IN IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING ORGANIZATIONS THAT ADDRESS GLOBAL HEALTH, CIVILIAN AIR SAFETY, AND TRANSNATIONAL CRIME, AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL SECURITY SUMMITS, MILITARY EXERCISES, AND ECONOMIC DIALOGUES AND FORUMS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan are bonded by their shared commitment to democracy, freedom, human rights, the rule of law, and the market economy; and

WHEREAS, trade between the United States and Taiwan contributes meaningfully to our mutual economic growth. Taiwan is the eighth largest trading partner of the United States, with bilateral trade totaling \$113.9 billion in 2021, while both sides welcomed the launch of the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade to further develop economic ties and facilitate trade; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the seventh largest export market overall for United States agricultural products, valued at more than \$3.8 billion in 2021, a 17.5 percent increase from 2020(\$3.3 billion), and sixth largest export market for United States beef and beef products in 2021, with a record \$667 million going to Taiwan, according to the United States International Trade Commission and the United States Foreign Agricultural Service; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan and Idaho maintain and cherish a longstanding friend-ship since the Sister State relationship was established in 1984. The establishment of the Idaho-Asia Trade Office in Taiwan in 1988 also marked successful expansion of bilateral trade and promotion of the partnerships between private and public sectors from both sides, thus creating mutual economic opportunities and prosperity for both states; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, Taiwan became Idaho's top import source for the second time and second largest export destination for a sixth time since 2017, remaining the overall second largest trading partner of Idaho, with a total trade value of \$3.15 billion covering commodity goods from electrical equipment and machinery, chemicals, optical and medical equipment, and agricultural products; and

WHEREAS, there have been several memoranda of understandings signed between Taiwan and Idaho, such as the Memorandum of Education Cooperation in 2018, a Letter of Intent in 2022 promising that Taiwan millers purchase \$576 million worth of United States wheat from 2022 through 2023, and the Memorandum of Understanding on Industrial Cooperation signed during Governor Brad Little's trade mission to Taiwan in December 2022, showing that both Taiwan and Idaho are dedicated to fortifying bilateral ties by cooperating and

exploring opportunities on educational, technological, cultural, and economic exchanges; and

WHEREAS, The People's Liberation Army of China has engaged in deeply concerning military activities in Taiwanese waters and airspace that threaten regional and global stability and security; and

WHEREAS, Chinese President Xi Jinping is leading the People's Republic of China toward aggressive totalitarian rule, and has indicated through his rhetoric and actions his openness to forceful reunification of Taiwan with mainland China, which contravenes the Chinese government's obligations under international law and a rule-based order; and

WHEREAS, the United States has supported Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, and the International Criminal Police Organization, and will continue to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in these and other international organizations; and

WHEREAS, Idaho welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic, educational, and cultural relationship with Taiwan, including through increased trade and investment through bilateral free and fair trade agreements, Taiwan's participation in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, more cooperation under the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, and capacity-building programs for regional experts in the areas of public health, empowerment of women, energy efficiency, and e-commerce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the State of Idaho recognizes the importance of a strong and enduring partnership with Taiwan. Idaho condemns the Chinese government's military escalations toward Taiwan and reaffirms the Unites States government's commitment to a strong and deepening relationship with the people of Taiwan. Idaho welcomes periodic trade talks under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade or related agreements in the interest of free and fair trade. Idaho supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in important international organizations, including organizations that address global health, civilian air safety, and transnational crime, and Taiwan's participation in bilateral and multilateral security summits, military exercises, and economic dialogues and forums.