



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Frizzell

A HOUSE RESOLUTION commending Taiwan's presidential election and supporting its efforts to secure entry to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the signing of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) with the United States and reaffirming support for increasing Taiwan's international profile and for strengthening and expanding sister-state ties between Indiana and Taiwan.

Whereas, The state of Indiana is proud of the sister-state relationship it has enjoyed with the Republic of China (Taiwan) since 1979 marked by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchanges, and tourism;

Whereas, Taiwan shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, peace, and prosperity

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with the United States and the state of Indiana;

Whereas, On January 16, 2016, Taiwan held its sixth direct presidential election, demonstrating again the strength and vitality of its democratic system and confirming Taiwan is a beacon of democracy in Asia and beyond;

Whereas, The United States ranks as Taiwan's third largest trading partner; Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the United States, and bilateral trade reached \$67.4 billion in 2014;

Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Indiana have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of future growth, and Taiwan was Indiana's fifth largest export market in Asia in 2014, with \$247 million worth of Indiana goods exported to Taiwan, which is 4.8 percent growth from 2012;

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

Whereas, Taiwan, seeking to contribute to greater regional integration in the Asia-Pacific region and promote bilateral investment and trade relations with the United States, applauds the United States' announcement of its intent not only to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) but to expand TPP membership in the future to include other countries, such as Taiwan: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives commends
- 2 and supports Taiwan's mature and vital democracy as well as
- 3 celebrates the 37th anniversary of sister-state relations.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the Indiana House of Representatives supports



1 Taiwan's efforts to secure entry to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)
2 and endorses the signing of a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA)
3 and Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States.

4 SECTION 3. That the Indiana House of Representatives continues
5 to support Taiwan's appropriate participation in international
6 organizations which impact the health, safety, and well-being of its
7 people.

8 SECTION 4. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
9 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the members
10 of the Indiana Congressional delegation and the Taipei Economic and
11 Cultural Office in Chicago, Illinois.

