

1 A RESOLUTION commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States.

2 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are longstanding allies who both deeply  
3 cherish the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, in the year 2020, Taiwan held its seventh direct presidential election  
6 and once again demonstrated the strength and vitality of its robust democratic system,  
7 paving the way for Taiwan as a beacon for democracy in Asia and beyond. This body  
8 congratulates Dr. Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election as the 15th President of Taiwan, and  
9 along with her Vice President Lai Ching-te, she hopes to build the country's already rich  
10 tradition of economic vitality, cultural growth, and innovation; and

11 WHEREAS, Taiwan serves the best interests of the Asia-Pacific region in the  
12 continuation of stability and growth; and

13 WHEREAS, since 1982, the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Taiwan have enjoyed  
14 long, cordial, and mutually beneficial sister-state relations, a friendship that continues to  
15 strengthen with each passing year. By working together with Taiwan, Kentucky welcomes  
16 all opportunities for an even closer economic and higher educational partnership; and

17 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest trading partner, and the  
18 United States is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner; in 2018, Kentucky's exports to  
19 Taiwan reached \$177.6 million. Taiwan is Kentucky's seventh largest export market in  
20 Asia; and

21 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) Agricultural and Trade Mission of  
22 2015 signed memorandums of understanding with Kentucky to purchase soybeans and  
23 corn in 2016 and 2017; and

24 WHEREAS, the Taiwan Travel Act is an act of the United States Congress, passed  
25 on February 28, 2018 and signed into law on March 16, 2018, and conceived as a follow  
26 up to the Taiwan Relations Act which was signed on April 10, 1978, to encourage visits  
27 between the United States and Taiwan at all levels; and

1           WHEREAS, the designation of Taiwan into the United States' Visa Waiver  
2 Program is a significant step to draw travelers from Taiwan choosing the United States as  
3 their destination for trade, investment, and sightseeing; the MOU of Reciprocal Driver's  
4 License also benefits relations between Taiwan and Kentucky; and

5           WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member in the international community with a  
6 long history of commitment to international health and humanitarian aid as well as  
7 environmental protection. This body congratulates Taiwan on its democratization efforts  
8 and meaningful participation in many international organizations;

9           NOW, THEREFORE,

10 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
11 ***Kentucky:***

12           ➔Section 1.     The members of the Senate commend and support the  
13 democratization efforts of Taiwan and the nation's meaningful participation in the World  
14 Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, and the UN  
15 Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as other international organizations  
16 such as the International Criminal Police Organization, and extend their most sincere best  
17 wishes for continued cooperation and success.

18           ➔Section 2.     The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
19 Resolution to Mr. Vincent Liu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural  
20 Office in Atlanta, Georgia.