

1 SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 17

2 **54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 SUPPORTING STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN NEW MEXICO AND
12 TAIWAN; SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN BILATERAL TRADE
13 AGREEMENT AND TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL
14 ORGANIZATIONS.

15
16 WHEREAS, the trade in goods and services between the
17 United States and the Republic of China, also known as Taiwan,
18 totaled an estimated eighty-six billion two hundred million
19 dollars (\$86,200,000,000) in 2017, with thirty-five billion six
20 hundred million dollars (\$35,600,000,000) in exports and fifty
21 billion five hundred million dollars (\$50,500,000,000) in
22 imports, ranking Taiwan as the eleventh-largest trading partner
23 of the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, overall, Taiwan supports more than three hundred
25 thirty thousand jobs in the United States; and

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1 WHEREAS, Taiwan was New Mexico's twenty-eighth-largest
2 export market in 2017, with a total of eight million sixty
3 thousand dollars (\$8,060,000) in exports; and

4 WHEREAS, the bilateral trade between New Mexico and Taiwan
5 has reached one hundred forty-seven million two hundred
6 thousand dollars (\$147,200,000); and

7 WHEREAS, in total, more than one thousand two hundred jobs
8 in New Mexico are supported by Taiwan-affiliated companies and
9 the exports of goods and services to Taiwan; and

10 WHEREAS, strengthening investment ties between New Mexico
11 and Taiwan can be mutually beneficial because New Mexico is
12 rich in oil and gas and over ninety-five percent of Taiwan's
13 energy is imported from abroad; and

14 WHEREAS, the signing of a bilateral trade agreement
15 between the United States and Taiwan would foster a more open
16 and fair trade environment, thereby creating greater export and
17 investment opportunities between markets; and

18 WHEREAS, negotiating a bilateral trade agreement would be
19 a win-win strategy that would not only stimulate mutual
20 economic growth but would also significantly increase jobs in
21 both countries; and

22 WHEREAS, New Mexico and Taiwan established sister-state
23 relations in 1985, resulting in various mutual agreements,
24 including New Mexico's and Taiwan's signing of both a mutual
25 recognition and exchange of driver's licenses without written

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1 or road tests and a memorandum of understanding on higher
2 education in 2018; and

3 WHEREAS, in an effort to reinforce the economic, cultural
4 and tourist relations between New Mexico and Taiwan, the
5 executive branch of New Mexico's government is encouraged to
6 sign an agreement or memorandum of understanding on energy and
7 trade with Taiwan in 2019; and

8 WHEREAS, on July 12, 2013, the president of the United
9 States signed into law H.R. 1151, an act supporting Taiwan's
10 participation as an observer in the international civil
11 aviation organization; and

12 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2016, the president of the United
13 States signed into law S. 2426, an act directing the United
14 States secretary of state to develop a strategy to obtain
15 observer status for Taiwan in the international criminal police
16 organization; and

17 WHEREAS, the United States supports Taiwan's meaningful
18 participation in international organizations such as the world
19 health organization, the international civil aviation
20 organization, the United Nations framework convention on
21 climate change and the international criminal police
22 organization; and

23 WHEREAS, joint memorials in support of Taiwan's
24 international participation have been introduced in the New
25 Mexico legislature in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018; and

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1 WHEREAS, the federal Taiwan Travel Act became law in March
2 2018 and was supported by the American legislative exchange
3 council in August 2018; and

4 WHEREAS, increasing interactions between high-ranking
5 public elected officials and lawmakers from New Mexico and
6 Taiwan would strengthen ties between the two sides; and

7 WHEREAS, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham is encouraged to
8 lead a trade delegation to Taiwan in 2019 to advance bilateral
9 trade and investment opportunities between New Mexico and
10 Taiwan;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it support the negotiation of a
13 bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan,
14 Taiwan's participation in international organizations, the
15 signing of an agreement on energy and trade with Taiwan and a
16 visit by Governor Lujan Grisham to Taiwan in 2019; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
18 transmitted to the president of the United States, members of
19 New Mexico's congressional delegation, the United States
20 secretary of state and the United States trade representative.