

House Concurrent Resolution No.

WHEREAS, civil aviation plays a pivotal role in promoting cultural exchange, business, trade, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, to develop international civil aviation in a safe and orderly manner is the supreme cause of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the world's 20th largest economy, 18th largest trading country, and a key air transport hub linking Northeast and Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, in December 2008, Taiwan and China resumed direct flights, shipping, and postal service which ended a ban that had been in place since 1949. Direct flights operated exclusively by Taiwanese and Chinese carriers more than doubled after the ban was lifted; and

WHEREAS, over 174,000 international flights travel to and from Taiwan, with foreign passengers making approximately 4.8 million trips to the island every year, and over 35 million passengers, including 29 million passengers on international flights, arrived and departed from Taiwan's airports in 2009; and

WHEREAS, remodeling of one of Taiwan's two international airports will be completed in the fall of 2011 to help absorb the nearly threefold surge in tourist arrivals from China which is expected to exceed one million in 2010; and

WHEREAS, without Taiwan's participation, international flight plans, regulations, and procedures that ICAO formulates will be incomplete; and

WHEREAS, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, the United States declared its intention to support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri and Taiwan have entered into Sister State relationship since 1980, with both sides highly regarding this mutually beneficial link:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby endorses an observer status for Taiwan in the International Civil Aviation Organization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the United States Secretary of State, the United States Secretary of Transportation, each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation, and the Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City, Missouri.

Offered by Representative Jerry Nolte