

House Concurrent Resolution No. 84

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOSKINS.

4822H.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, the State of Missouri endorses its continued support of its relationship and
2 shared interests with the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan); and
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4 **WHEREAS**, in 2014, Taiwan was the 9th largest import partner and the 21st largest
5 export partner of Missouri; and
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7 **WHEREAS**, as of the end of June 2015, Taiwan is the United States's 10th largest
8 trading partner, and is the United States's 7th largest export market for agricultural products; and
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10 **WHEREAS**, the United States is Taiwan's 2nd largest trading partner; and
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12 **WHEREAS**, Taiwan and the United States have continued bilateral consultations in a
13 series of twelve work conferences and nine rounds of negotiation about the Trade and Investment
14 Framework Agreement (TIFA), of which the ninth round was held on October 1, 2015, and have
15 made significant progress; and
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17 **WHEREAS**, a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) gives investors in both economies
18 greater assurance that the capital they are putting at risk in each other's market will be adequately
19 protected; and
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21 **WHEREAS**, the United States has already concluded, or is seeking to negotiate, BIAs
22 with 9 of its top 10 trading partners, and Taiwan is the sole exception; and
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24 **WHEREAS**, opening negotiations for a BIA between the United States and Taiwan will
25 provide more stability for strong two-way investment ties; and
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27 **WHEREAS**, the value of trade between Taiwan and the twelve United States led Trans-
28 Pacific Partnership (TPP) members accounts for thirty-five percent of Taiwan's total trade; and
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30 **WHEREAS**, Taiwan hopes to work via regional economic bodies to further develop
31 bilateral and multilateral trade with the United States and other nations in the Asia-Pacific
32 region, hoping to participate in the second round of TPP multilateral trade negotiations; and
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34 **WHEREAS**, over the past seven years, the two sides of the Taiwan Strait have signed
35 twenty-three agreements, and relations between Taiwan and mainland China are more stable and
36 peaceful than at any other time in the past 60 years; and
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38 **WHEREAS**, the Minister of the Executive Yuan's Mainland Affairs Council has met
39 with mainland China's Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council Minister seven times since
40 February 2014, becoming an important milestone in the development of peace and prosperity
41 between the two sides; and
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43 **WHEREAS**, President Ma, Ying-jeou met on November 7, 2015, with mainland Chinese
44 leader Xi Jinping in Singapore to exchange opinions on consolidating cross strait peace and
45 maintaining the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, demonstrating to the world that the two sides
46 have established a mechanism to resolve disputes in a peaceful manner; and
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48 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
49 Representatives of the Ninety-eighth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
50 concurring therein, hereby welcome the resumption of TIFA talks between the United States and
51 Taiwan and express support for Taiwan's efforts to secure entry into the TPP, along with the
52 United States and other friendly Asia-Pacific Rim countries; and
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54 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
55 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the
56 United States Secretary of State, each member of the Missouri congressional delegation; and the
57 Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Denver, Colorado.

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