

1 HR423
2 181214-2
3 By Representative Johnson (K)
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 03-MAY-17

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8 TO COMMEND AND SUPPORT THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA
9 (TAIWAN) FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES; AND FOR
10 OTHER PURPOSES.

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12 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the
13 United States are long-standing allies who both deeply cherish
14 the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the
15 rule of law; and

16 WHEREAS, in the year of 2016, the Republic of China
17 (Taiwan) held its sixth direct presidential election and again
18 demonstrated the strength and vitality of its democratic
19 system, paving the way for Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in
20 Asia and beyond; Tsai Ing-wen was elected as the 14th
21 President of Taiwan, becoming the first female president in
22 the country's history, and along with her Vice President Chen
23 Chien-jen, she hopes to continue to build the country's
24 already rich tradition of economic vitality, cultural growth,
25 and innovation; and

26 WHEREAS, Taiwan serves the best interests of the
27 Asia-Pacific region in the continuation of stability and

1 growth; Taiwan and mainland China have signed more than 20
2 agreements in the past decade, and U.S. businesses can
3 collaborate with innovative Taiwanese companies in Taiwan's
4 comprehensive protection of intellectual property rights,
5 facilitating entry into mainland China and other key Asian
6 markets; and

7 WHEREAS, since 1983, the State of Alabama and Taiwan
8 have enjoyed long, cordial, and mutually beneficial
9 sister-state relations, a friendship that continues to
10 strengthen with each passing year; and

11 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest
12 trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's
13 second-largest trading partner; and

14 WHEREAS, the designation of Taiwan into the United
15 States' Visa Waiver Program is a significant step to draw
16 travelers from Taiwan choosing the United States as their
17 destination for trade, investment, and recreation; the MOU of
18 Reciprocal Driver's License also benefit bilateral relations
19 between Taiwan and Alabama; and

20 WHEREAS, by working with Taiwan, Alabama welcomes
21 all opportunities for an even closer economic partnership,
22 such as the signing of a US-Taiwan Bilateral Investment
23 Agreement and a Free Trade Agreement in order to enhance the
24 special sister-state bond between Alabama and Taiwan and to
25 encourage further cultural, educational, and business
26 exchanges between the citizens of both nations; and

1 WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member in the
2 international community with a long history of commitment to
3 international health and humanitarian aid as well as
4 environmental protection; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
6 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the members of this body
7 commend and support the democratization efforts of Taiwan and
8 the nation's meaningful participation in the World Health
9 Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization,
10 as well as other international organizations, and extend our
11 most sincere best wishes for continued cooperation and
12 success.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House
14 of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an
15 appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Vincent Liu,
16 Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in
17 Atlanta.