

Senate Resolution 112

By: Senators Brass of the 28th, Rhett of the 33rd, Robertson of the 29th, Rahman of the 5th, Dolezal of the 27th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States and the State of Georgia; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, and the United States
4 is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, with bilateral trade amounting to \$105 billion in
5 2021; Georgia's export to Taiwan in 2021 increased 0.3 percent more than that of 2020 and
6 import from Taiwan in 2021 increased 17.2 percent more than that of 2020, making Taiwan
7 the 16th export market and the 12th import country of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, the World Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce (WTCC) held the organization's
9 28th Annual Conference in Atlanta in March 2022 with over 300 Taiwanese business leaders
10 around the world, which further strengthened the economic ties between Georgia and
11 Taiwan; and

12 WHEREAS, the first "Taiwan Pavilion" was hosted by the Taipei Economic and Cultural
13 office (TECO) in Atlanta at the Southern Automotive Conference (SAC) in October 2022,
14 joined by eight leading Taiwanese companies related to electric vehicles that successfully
15 facilitated a contract of the Peachtree Corners Curiosity Lab with a Taiwan EV charger
16 solution provider; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia welcomes all opportunities for an even closer partnership on business,
18 educational, cultural, and people to people exchanges between citizens of the United States
19 and Taiwan and for collaborating better together in the worldwide economic recovery efforts;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been experiencing continuous threats from its authoritarian
22 neighbor of China, which has encroached on Taiwan's security by launching multiple
23 missiles and dispatching numerous aircraft and vessels to enter Taiwan's air defense
24 identification zone (ADIZ) and cross the Taiwan Strait median line, disseminating
25 disinformation and launching cyber-attacks, and repeatedly excluding Taiwan from the
26 international system, as demonstrated through its denial of Taiwan's participation in the
27 United Nations system meetings, mechanisms, conventions and activities; and

28 WHEREAS, in 2022, the United States and Taiwan have experienced strengthening in
29 bilateral relations, including the launch of the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade,
30 which facilitates a roadmap for negotiations on an economic and trade agreement with
31 high-standard commitments; the visiting of numerous elected high-ranking officials amid
32 China's provocation; the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, which
33 facilitates a defense modernization program for Taiwan to deter China's aggression; and the
34 signing of the Taiwan-US MOU on Development and Humanitarian Assistance Cooperation,
35 which highlights that Taiwan is an significant stakeholder globally; and

36 WHEREAS, the United States will host the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in
37 2023. Being a formal member of the APEC, Taiwan keeps making great contributions and
38 is an indispensable key partner to the welfare of the people in Asia-Pacific region.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
40 support the establishment of a trade office in Taiwan as South Carolina, New Mexico,
41 Montana, and Pennsylvania have recently done in order to attract more investments;
42 encourage officials and members of legislature to conduct more frequent exchanges with
43 their Taiwanese counterparts; and urge for the signing of an education cooperation MOU
44 with Taiwan aimed at promoting Mandarin-English language, teachers, and students
45 exchange.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body further support the US-Taiwan
47 Initiative on 21st-Century Trade and the negotiations on a Bilateral Trade Agreement as
48 Taiwanese companies are looking for diverse and free markets in the United States instead
49 of China, as well as Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations and
50 mechanisms such as WHO, UNFCCC, ICAO, INTERPOL, and IPEF.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
52 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Governor Brian
53 Kemp, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, the Georgia Congressional Delegation, and
54 Mr. Elliot Wang, Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.