

1 A RESOLUTION commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States and
2 the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, and the
4 United States is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, with a bilateral trade amount of
5 \$105 billion in 2021; and

6 WHEREAS, Kentucky's exports to Taiwan increased 62.6 percent between 2020
7 and 2021, and Kentucky's imports from Taiwan increased 49.2 percent between 2020 and
8 2021, making Taiwan Kentucky's eighteenth-highest export country and thirteenth-
9 highest import country; and

10 WHEREAS, the Taiwan Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission visited Kentucky in
11 September 2022, vowing to purchase nearly \$3 billion of high-quality soybeans and corn
12 in 2023 and 2024, further strengthening Taiwan's economic ties with Kentucky; and

13 WHEREAS, the government of Taiwan and its community assisted Kentucky
14 residents by donating \$120,000 and 100,000 medical masks to the recovery work after
15 the deadly tornadoes; and

16 WHEREAS, Kentucky became a bellwether of education after the launch of the
17 "U.S.–Taiwan Education Initiative" in 2020, by signing the higher education and K-12
18 cooperation memoranda of understanding with Taiwan in 2021, facilitating more
19 Mandarin and English language exchanges between students and teachers; and

20 WHEREAS, Kentucky welcomes all opportunities for an even closer partnership on
21 business, educational, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges between citizens of the
22 United States and Taiwan, and hopes to collaborate better together in the worldwide post-
23 pandemic economic recovery efforts; and

24 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been experiencing continuous threats from its
25 authoritarian neighbor, China, which has encroached on Taiwan's security by launching
26 multiple missiles and dispatching numerous aircraft and vessels into Taiwan's air defense
27 identification zone and across the Taiwan Strait median line. China has also disseminated

1 disinformation, launched cyberattacks, and repeatedly excluded Taiwan from the
2 international system as demonstrated through its denial of Taiwan's participation in the
3 United Nations system meetings, mechanisms, conventions, and activities; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2022, the United States and Taiwan saw a strengthening in bilateral
5 relations with the launch of the "U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade," which
6 facilitates a roadmap for negotiations on economic and trade agreements with high-
7 standard commitments; visits from numerous high-ranking elected officials amidst
8 China's provocation; the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023,"
9 which facilitates a defense modernization program for Taiwan to deter China's
10 aggression; and the signing of the "Taiwan-U.S. Memorandum of Understanding on
11 Development and Humanitarian Assistance Cooperation," which highlights that Taiwan
12 is a significant stakeholder globally; and

13 WHEREAS, as a formal member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
14 (APEC) since 1991, Taiwan keeps making great contributions and is an indispensable,
15 key partner to the welfare of the people in the Asia-Pacific region;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
18 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

19 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives encourages the members of this body
20 to join the Taiwan Caucus in urging the Commonwealth of Kentucky to establish a trade
21 office in Taiwan, as South Carolina, New Mexico, Montana, and Pennsylvania have
22 recently done. The establishment of a trade office in Taiwan will attract more investments
23 in Taiwan and the Commonwealth and enable the Commonwealth's officials and General
24 Assembly members to conduct more frequent exchanges with their Taiwanese
25 counterparts.

26 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives supports the "U.S.-Taiwan Initiative
27 on 21st-Century Trade" and the negotiations on the Bilateral Trade Agreement as

1 Taiwanese companies are looking for diverse and free markets in the United States
2 instead of China, and further supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in international
3 organizations and mechanisms such as the World Health Organization, United Nations
4 Framework Convention on Climate Change, International Civil Aviation Organization,
5 International Criminal Police Organization, and Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for
6 Prosperity.

7 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
8 copy of this Resolution to Governor Andy Beshear, Secretary of State Michael G.
9 Adams, the Kentucky Congressional Delegation, and Mr. Elliot Wang, Director-General
10 of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta, Georgia.