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**JOINT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING
FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN
2024 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH**

Chief Sponsor: Jerry W Stevenson

House Sponsor: Candice B. Pierucci

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LONG TITLE

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General Description:

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5 This resolution expresses support for the continued friendship between Utah and Taiwan.

Highlighted Provisions:

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7 This resolution:

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8 ▶ highlights the long-standing friendship between Utah and Taiwan;

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9 ▶ supports a continuation of the Utah and Taiwan friendship;

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10 ▶ supports deepening the religious, economic, educational, and cultural partnership

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11 between Utah and Taiwan; and

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12 ▶ encourages global organizations to admit Taiwan into their membership.

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Other Special Clauses:

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14 None

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Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

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17 WHEREAS, the state of Utah has developed a strong relationship with Taiwan based on
18 shared values including a commitment to religious freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule
19 of law, and a free market economy;

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18 shared values including a commitment to religious freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule
19 of law, and a free market economy;

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19 of law, and a free market economy;

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20 WHEREAS, this relationship began in 1956 when the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
21 Saints, which is headquartered in Utah, dispatched the first four missionaries as a friendly
22 exchange between the Taiwanese people and Utahns;

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22 exchange between the Taiwanese people and Utahns;

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22 exchange between the Taiwanese people and Utahns;

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23 WHEREAS, by 2024, more than 43,000 Latter-day Saint missionaries have served in
24 Taiwan;

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24 Taiwan;

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25 WHEREAS, in 1980, Utah and Taiwan established a formal sister-state relationship,
26 deepening the cultural exchanges between Utah and Taiwan;

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26 deepening the cultural exchanges between Utah and Taiwan;

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27 WHEREAS, today, approximately 1,200 foreign-born Taiwanese people live and work in
28 Utah, lending their support to Utah communities;

29 WHEREAS, Taiwan is Utah's fifth-largest trading partner and sixth-largest export
30 destination, with Utah exporting more than \$650 million in goods to Taiwan in 2020, including
31 electronics, food, chemicals, and machinery;

32 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the first country to enter into the Driver License Reciprocity
33 Agreement with Utah;

34 WHEREAS, because of the Driver License Reciprocity Agreement, people with a driver
35 license from Utah can now drive when visiting Taiwan and people with a driver license from
36 Taiwan can drive when visiting Utah;

37 WHEREAS, the Driver License Reciprocity Agreement will benefit both Utah and Taiwan,
38 resulting in a stronger relationship, politically and economically, while increasing the ease of
39 foreign citizens doing business in Utah;

40 WHEREAS, during the 2020 General Session, the Legislature passed a law incentivizing
41 public universities to work with industry leaders, in creating multi-disciplinary programs;

42 WHEREAS, these multi-disciplinary programs prepare the workforce for scientific
43 discoveries and engineering innovations;

44 WHEREAS, Taiwan's participation in these programs mutually benefit the people of Utah
45 and Taiwan;

46 WHEREAS, Taiwan's participation and contributions in international organizations and
47 agreements such as the bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan, the
48 Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, the World Health Assembly, the
49 International Civil Aviation Organization, and other organizations greatly benefit Utahns and
50 all Americans; and

51 WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 45th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, a foundation
52 upon which the United States and particularly Utah, has maintained and strengthened its
53 economic and cultural ties with Taiwan:

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah supports
55 strengthening the existing friendship with Taiwan on religious, economic, and cultural grounds.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature emphasizes the importance of the
57 collaborative relationship between the United States, Utah, and Taiwan in the technology
58 sector, higher education, and elsewhere.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages Utah's federal delegation to
60 continue strengthening Utah and the United States' relationship with Taiwan, and continue

61 supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations and agreements.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah

63 congressional delegation and the Taipei Economic Cultural Office in San Francisco.