



HR 9113

2003

House Resolution

1
2 A resolution in support of friendship and trade with
3 Taiwan.

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5 WHEREAS, for more than 50 years a close relationship has
6 existed between the United States and Taiwan, which has been of
7 enormous economic and cultural advantage to both countries, and

8 WHEREAS, Taiwan has demonstrated a commitment to democratic
9 ideals of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and free and
10 fair elections routinely held in a multiparty system, as
11 evidenced by the March 18, 2000, election of Chen Shui-bian as
12 Taiwan's new president, and

13 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a democracy with a complementary economy
14 to the United States and a peace-loving culture that shares our
15 cherished values of freedom and human rights, and

16 WHEREAS, on January 1, 2002, Taiwan was officially admitted
17 into the World Trade Organization under the name of Separate
18 Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu (TPKM),
19 and this will reduce Taiwanese tariffs and open market access to
20 foreign investment, and

21 WHEREAS, the United States is Taiwan's largest trading
22 partner and Taiwan is the eighth largest trading partner, the
23 tenth largest export market, and the fifth largest agricultural
24 export market for the United States, and

25 WHEREAS, the International Trade Commission (ITC) reports
26 that a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Taiwan and the United
27 States would help to increase United States exports to Taiwan by
28 up to an estimated 16 percent (worth \$3.4 billion in United
29 States currency) and total economic trade between the United
30 States and Taiwan by up to \$10.4 billion in United States



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31 dollars, and

32 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida derive great
 33 benefit from our relationship of economic cooperation and
 34 cultural exchange with the people of Taiwan, as evidenced by the
 35 establishment of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in
 36 Florida and the State of Florida Taipei Office in Taiwan, and

37 WHEREAS, Florida's exports to Taiwan in 2002 were
 38 approximately \$62 million, a 25 percent increase over 2001
 39 exports, and

40 WHEREAS, Taiwan's inclusion in the World Health
 41 Organization would promote its ability to adequately safeguard
 42 its population against infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS,
 43 Dengue Fever, and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), NOW,
 44 THEREFORE,

45
 46 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 47 Florida:

48
 49 That the Members of the House of Representatives of the
 50 State of Florida support the negotiation of a Free Trade
 51 Agreement between the United States and Taiwan.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Members of the House of
 53 Representatives of the State of Florida support Taiwan's efforts
 54 to be accepted as an observer at the World Health Assembly and
 55 the Health Network of the World Health Organization.