

By Senator Flores

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Senate Memorial

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2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging
3 Congress to offer its continued support of the relationship and
4 shared interests between the people of Taiwan and the United
5 States.

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7 WHEREAS, Florida maintains and values its relationship with
8 Taiwan, and

9 WHEREAS, April 10, 2013, will mark the 34th anniversary of
10 the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, which encourages
11 continued commercial and cultural relations between the people
12 of the United States and the people of Taiwan, and

13 WHEREAS, the support for Taiwan's continued economic growth
14 and prosperity is important to the interests of the United
15 States, particularly since Taiwan was the eleventh largest two-
16 way trade partner of the United States and the seventh largest
17 export market for United States food and agricultural products
18 in 2012 and is currently the sixth largest source of
19 international students traveling to the United States, and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the allies of the United States
21 in the Western Pacific region, and Governor Rick Scott has
22 encouraged President Barack Obama to provide defensive weaponry,
23 such as F-16 C/D aircraft, to Taiwan, which will create job
24 opportunities in Florida and help Taiwan maintain its defense
25 capabilities in the region, and

26 WHEREAS, the campaign of the East China Sea Peace
27 Initiative proposed by President Ma Ying-jeou of Taiwan, which
28 recognizes the conflicting territorial viewpoints of the
29 interested parties, calls on all parties concerned to resolve

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30 their regional disputes peacefully based on the United Nations
31 Charter and relevant provisions of international law, which is
32 consistent with the security and economic interests of the
33 United States in East Asia, and

34 WHEREAS, the Legislature encourages and supports Taiwan's
35 meaningful participation in international organizations, noting
36 that Taiwan participates in, observes, or cooperates with over
37 50 international organizations and is a member of both the Asia-
38 Pacific Economic Cooperation forum and the World Trade
39 Organization, NOW, THEREFORE,

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41 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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43 That the Legislature expresses its support for the meeting
44 of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Joint Council in
45 Taipei between the United States and Taiwan and encourages
46 future opportunities of international trade developments with
47 Taiwan to further strengthen the substantive relationship
48 between Florida and Taiwan.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature welcomes the
50 initiative made by the Taiwan Government in maintaining the
51 peace of the East China Sea.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
53 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
54 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
55 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
56 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.