SLS 21RS-455 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Expresses support for trade agreements between the United States and Taiwan and Taiwan's participation in certain international organizations, and celebrates the anniversary of the federal Taiwan Relations Act, and sister state relationship between Taiwan and Louisiana.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To express support for the strengthening of the partnership with Taiwan and for the
3	expansion of Taiwan's role on the global stage.
4	WHEREAS, the longstanding bonds of friendship between the United States and
5	Taiwan, embodied in the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, continue to yield important
6	economic, strategic, and cultural benefits; and
7	WHEREAS, in 2019, bilateral trade in goods reached \$85.5 billion ranking Taiwan
8	as the United States' tenth largest trading partner, and Taiwan's recent action to life
9	restrictions on U.S. beef and pork beginning in January 2021 helped further enhance bilateral
10	trade; and
11	WHEREAS, the seventh largest export market for U.S. agricultural products,
12	Taiwan's biennial agricultural trade goodwill missions result in multibillion-dollar supply
13	deals, and its annually dispatched delegations to the SelectUSA Investment Summit boost
14	investments; and
15	WHEREAS, the robust US-Taiwan trade and investment partnership provides a solid
16	foundation for a mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement (BTA) to spur job creation,
17	further expand the global market, and secure international supply chains; and
18	WHEREAS, Taiwan is well positioned to play an important role augmenting the

revitalization of the global supply chain as part of the post-coronavirus pandemic economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is committed to helping address global challenges, from humanitarian crises to nontraditional security threats, emerging this year as an important

6 countries around the world, including one hundred thirty-five thousand surgical masks from

the Taiwan government and Taiwan-affiliated private groups to the state and cities of

partner in pandemic prevention, providing surgical masks and other PPE to more than eighty

Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Taiwan Model has been admired around the world for its effective pandemic prevention and containment, bolstering unprecedented international support for Taiwan's bid to participate in the World Health Assembly (WHA); and

WHEREAS, Taiwanese officials and civil society groups partner with the United States on an array of issues to promote our common values of freedom, democracy, and human rights; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, Taiwan joined with the United States to establish the Partnership against Coronavirus, building on the cooperative tradition of prior joint partnerships such as the Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF), which advances Taiwanese leadership in such arenas as democratization, human rights, women's empowerment, and public health; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, Louisiana and Taiwan have maintained a sister state relationship, enjoying particularly close economic ties, wherein Taiwanese firms have invested billions of dollars in a broad spectrum of Louisiana businesses, making Taiwan Louisiana's ninth largest foreign market in Asia; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, Taiwan imported nearly \$3.65 billion in commodities from Louisiana including petroleum products, chemicals, primary metal manufacturing, and agricultural products, and Louisiana imported over \$1.27 billion in Taiwanese goods, primarily electronics, metal products, transportation equipment, and industrial machinery; and

WHEREAS, FG LA LLC, a group owned by Taiwanese company Formosa Plastics, is investing in and received proper state permits to construct a new petrochemical facility

1	in St. James Parish, its fourth major investment in the state, and this project represents
2	significant investment and quality jobs for St. James Parish, the river region and the state of
3	Louisiana, including a projected \$33 million annually in state and local taxes, and \$5 billion
4	annually in shipped goods, making the project among the largest economic generators in the
5	state; and
6	WHEREAS, Louisiana and the United States have benefitted immeasurably through
7	decades of an unwavering friendship with Taiwan, and the wider world is sure to reap
8	tremendous rewards as Taiwan works to enhance its presence in the international
9	community.
10	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11	express its support for the strengthening of the partnership with Taiwan and for the
12	expansion of Taiwan's role on the global stage.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby:
14	(1) Express support for a bilateral trade agreement between the United States and
15	Taiwan.
16	(2) Express support for Taiwan's meaningful participation in the International
17	Criminal Police Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the United
18	Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the World Health Assembly.
19	(3) Celebrate the forty-second anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations
20	Act and the thirty-sixth anniversary of the sister state relationship between the state of
21	Louisiana and Taiwan.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
23	Mr. Peter C.Y. Chen, Director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston.
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**DIGEST** 2021 Regular Session

of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michael Bell.

Peacock

SCR 20 Original

Expresses support for trade agreements between the United States and Taiwan, Taiwan's participation in certain international organizations, celebrates the anniversary of the federal Taiwan Relations Act, and the sister state relationship between Taiwan and Louisiana.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part