

1 HJR242
2 174595-3
3 By Representatives Johnson (K), Henry, Pettus, Hill (M),
4 Martin, McCampbell, Davis, Williams (JD), Daniels, South,
5 Blackshear, Wingo, Collins, McCutcheon, Ainsworth, Shedd,
6 Sessions, Hammon, Greer, Gaston, Lee, Harbison, Hall,
7 Crawford, Patterson, Nordgren, Faust, Sanderford, Coleman,
8 Givan, Whorton (I), Moore (B), Brown, Rowe, Weaver, Harper,
9 Scott, Ledbetter, Whorton (R), Rich, Mooney, Hill (J), Clouse,
10 McMillan, Fridy, Pringle, Grimsley, Black, Baker, Warren,
11 Forte, Standridge and Fincher
12 RFD: Rules
13 First Read: 07-APR-16

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ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,

COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are long-standing allies who both deeply cherish the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, in the year of 2016, Taiwan held its sixth direct presidential election and again demonstrated the strength and vitality of its democratic system, paving the way for Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in Asia and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan serves the best interests of the Asia-Pacific region in the continuation of stability and growth; in 2012, President Ma Ying-jeou proposed the East China Sea Peace Initiative, which calls upon the parties concerned to resolve disputes peacefully and engage in joint development of resources; in May 2015, President Ma proposed the South China Sea Peace Initiative, which calls for the parties concerned to exercise restraint from taking unilateral actions that could escalate tensions, respect international law, and solve disputes through dialogue and in a peaceful manner to maintain free and safe passage for ships and flights on and over the South China Sea; and

1 WHEREAS, since 1983, the State of Alabama and Taiwan
2 have enjoyed long, cordial, and mutually beneficial
3 sister-state relations, a friendship that continues to
4 strengthen with each passing year; and

5 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' tenth-largest
6 trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's
7 second-largest trading partner; and

8 WHEREAS, the designation of Taiwan into the United
9 States' Visa Waiver Program is a significant step to draw
10 travelers from Taiwan choosing the United States as their
11 destination for trade, investment, and sightseeing; and

12 WHEREAS, by working together with Taiwan, Alabama
13 welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic
14 partnership, such as the signing of a US-Taiwan Bilateral
15 Investment Agreement and a Free Trade Agreement, and the
16 inclusion of Taiwan in the Trans-Pacific Partnership in order
17 to enhance the bond between Alabama and Taiwan and to
18 encourage further cultural, educational, and business
19 exchanges between the citizens of both nations; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member in the
21 international community with a long history of commitment to
22 international health and humanitarian aid as well as
23 environmental protection; now therefore,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
25 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we commend and support the

1 democratization efforts of Taiwan and the nation's meaningful
2 participation in the World Health Organization, the
3 International Civil Aviation Organization, as well as other
4 international organizations, and extend our most sincere best
5 wishes for continued cooperation and success.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the clerk of the House
7 of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an
8 appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Huei-Yuan (Steven)
9 Tai, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural
10 Office in Atlanta.

