

1 HJR242
2 174595-2
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

2
3
4
5
6
7
8 COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED
9 STATES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

10
11 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are
12 long-standing allies who both deeply cherish the common values
13 of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; and

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

18 WHEREAS, Taiwan serves the best interests of the
19 Asia-Pacific region in the continuation of stability and
20 growth; in 2012, President Ma Ying-jeou proposed the East
21 China Sea Peace Initiative, which calls upon the parties
22 concerned to resolve disputes peacefully and engage in joint
23 development of resources; in May 2015, President Ma proposed
24 the South China Sea Peace Initiative, which calls for the
25 parties concerned to exercise restraint from taking unilateral
26 actions that could escalate tensions, respect international
27 law, and solve disputes through dialogue and in a peaceful

1 manner to maintain free and safe passage for ships and flights
2 on and over the South China Sea; and

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

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

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

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

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

26 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
27 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.