

1 HJR99  
2 218199-2  
3 By Representative McCutcheon  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 24-FEB-22

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8 COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED  
9 STATES AND THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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11 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are  
12 like-minded in that both deeply cherish the common values of  
13 freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been experiencing continuous  
15 threats from the neighbor of China, which has encroached on  
16 Taiwan's security by flying in Taiwan's air defense  
17 identification zone, disseminating disinformation, launching  
18 cyber attacks, and repeatedly excluding Taiwan from the  
19 international system, as demonstrated through its denial of  
20 Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly; and

21 WHEREAS, in 2021, the United States and Taiwan have  
22 experienced strengthening in bilateral relations; the State  
23 Department loosened restrictions on official contacts with  
24 Taiwan; both sides resumed the eleventh Trade and Investment  
25 Framework Agreement Council meeting; the United States  
26 continues to approve its arms sales to Taiwan, demonstrating  
27 that the United States has always placed great importance on

1 Taiwan's defense capabilities; Taiwan and the United States,  
2 along with Japan, welcomed Australia as the fourth official  
3 partner of the Global Cooperation and Training Framework; most  
4 recently, the United States included Taiwan in the 2021 Summit  
5 for Democracy; and

6 WHEREAS, Taiwan has contributed extensive resources  
7 to help the international community, including the United  
8 States, to combat the COVID-19 pandemic through the global  
9 donation of tens of million of surgical and N95 masks,  
10 hundreds of thousands of isolation gowns, and tens of  
11 thousands of thermometers, reciprocally, the United States has  
12 donated 4 million doses of the Moderna vaccine to Taiwan; and

13 WHEREAS, Taiwan ranks as the second-freest country  
14 in Asia, scoring 94 out of 100 and seventh in the world in  
15 Freedom House's latest report on global freedom; and

16 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest  
17 trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's  
18 second-largest trading partner; Taiwan supports an estimated  
19 330,000 jobs in the United States; Taiwan is the 15th largest  
20 export market of Alabama, Alabama's 12th largest import  
21 country, investing \$16 million to Alabama and supporting an  
22 estimated 1,551 jobs in Alabama; recently, South Carolina, New  
23 Mexico, Montana, and Pennsylvania have established trade  
24 offices in Taiwan to attract more investments; and

25 WHEREAS, Alabama welcomes all opportunities for an  
26 even closer partnership on business, educational, cultural,  
27 and people-to-people exchanges between the citizens of both

1 nations, and to recover better together in the worldwide,  
2 post-pandemic economic recovery efforts; now therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
4 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That it encourages the members of  
5 this body to join the Southeastern State Legislative Taiwan  
6 Caucus (SESTC), calling like-minded states and international  
7 communities to support Taiwan's democracy, freedom, and the  
8 nation's meaningful participation in international  
9 organizations and cooperation, such as the World Health  
10 Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization,  
11 INTERPOL, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and  
12 CPTPP.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it supports the early  
14 start of negotiations on a US-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement  
15 (BTA), establishing a trade office in Taiwan, as Taiwanese  
16 companies are looking for diverse and free markets in the U.S.  
17 instead of China.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That it urges Alabama and  
19 Taiwan to sign K-12 and higher education cooperation MOUs  
20 aiming at Mandarin-English language exchange programs,  
21 encouraging its officials and members of Legislature to  
22 conduct more exchanges with their Taiwanese counterparts.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House  
24 of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an  
25 appropriate copy of this resolution to Governor Kay Ivey,  
26 Secretary of State John Merrill, and Mr. Elliot Wang,

1 Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in  
2 Atlanta.