

SJR40 INTRODUCED



1 SJR40
2 NRNNWJJ-1
3 By Senators Jones, Coleman-Madison
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 18-Mar-25



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

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States of America are long standing allies who both deeply cherish the common values of democracy, peace, and prosperity; therefore, Taiwan continues to pursue integrated diplomacy and serves the best interests of the Indo-Pacific region by deepening ties with other like-minded nations, safeguarding regional security, and utilizing Taiwan's technological and economic success to promote partnerships on mutual benefits; and

WHEREAS, China repeatedly exerts economic coercion, stages military drills directed toward Taiwan, and distorts UN Resolution 2758 (XXVI) excluding Taiwan's participation from international organizations, which results in global challenges to rules-based international order and aggressive authoritarian expansionism; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, with an estimated \$128 billion worth of trade, and Taiwan is Alabama's 13th largest import and 18th largest export market in 2023; the U.S. and Taiwan's first agreement entry into force under "US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade" includes commitments on anti-corruption, good regulatory practices, customs



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29 administration and trade facilitation, and small and
30 medium-sized enterprises; and

31 WHEREAS, Taiwan and Alabama signed the K-12 and
32 higher education cooperation MOU in 2022 since the launch of
33 the 2020 "U.S. - Taiwan Education Initiative," facilitating
34 educational cooperation, Mandarin and English language
35 learning, and student and teacher exchanges, realizing our
36 common goals in the operation of the "Taiwan Center" at
37 Auburn University; now, therefore,

38 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
39 ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That this body
40 supports constant talks under the "US-Taiwan Initiative on
41 21st-Century Trade" and a "US-Taiwan Avoid Double Taxation
42 Agreement" as Taiwanese companies are looking for a diverse
43 and free market investment in the U.S.; encouraging the
44 state government to establish a trade office in Taiwan, as
45 23 other states and Guam have done, and organize a trade
46 delegation to Taiwan to attract more investments;
47 encouraging city governments to participate in the annual
48 "Smart City" forum in Taiwan; and

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That with the celebration of
50 Taiwan's democracy to reaffirm the United States' commitment
51 to Taiwan, encouraging the members of this body to join the
52 Taiwan Caucus to explore more collaborative opportunities
53 with Taiwan; supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in
54 international organizations and economic cooperation such as
55 WHO, UNFCCC, ICAO, INTERPOL, CPTPP and IPEF; and



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56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That conducting more
57 exchanges with Taiwan of scholars, teachers and students,
58 and using TOCFL (Test of Chinese as a foreign language as a
59 Chinese proficiency assessment tool for Alabama State Seal
60 of Biliteracy); encouraging Alabamians to take part in
61 Taiwanese American Heritage Week in May and other
62 activities; experiencing and promoting Taiwan's culture,
63 tourism, and delicacies such as boba tea; and

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a certified copy of this
65 Resolution be prepared and transmitted to Governor Kay Ivey,
66 Secretary of State Wes Allen, the Alabama Congressional
67 Delegation, and Mr. Elliot Wang, Director-General of the
68 Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.