

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 95

Reps. Morgan, Greene and Beson offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to express our commitment to strengthening and
2 deepening ties between the state of Michigan and Taiwan.

3 Whereas, Taiwan shares values of freedom, democracy, human
4 rights, rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States
5 and the state of Michigan; and

6 Whereas, Taiwan and the United States are key partners in
7 trade. The United States ranks as Taiwan's second-largest trading
8 partner, and in 2023, Taiwan was the United States' eighth-largest
9 goods trading partner. Bilateral goods trade reached over 127.7
10 billion dollars in 2023 and over 158.6 billion dollars in 2024; and

11 Whereas, Taiwan is a particularly important market for United
12 States agricultural products. Taiwan imported 3.93 billion dollars'
13 worth of agricultural products from the United States in 2023, and

1 another 3.8 billion dollars' worth of agricultural and related
2 products in 2024. In 2022, the United States Department of
3 Agriculture noted that Taiwan was the fourth-largest export market
4 for U.S. agricultural products on a per capita basis. Furthermore,
5 in 2023, Taiwan was our nation's eighth-largest export market for
6 corn and our sixth-largest export market for soybeans. Due to our
7 nation's high-quality produce, the United States remains one of
8 Taiwan's largest sources of agricultural products, supplying nearly
9 a quarter of Taiwan's agricultural imports in 2023; and

10 Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Michigan have enjoyed a long
11 and mutually beneficial relationship. Michigan has a vibrant
12 Taiwanese American community that has enriched the state's culture,
13 cuisine, and commerce for decades. Taiwan was Michigan's tenth-
14 largest export market in Asia in 2024, with over 257 million
15 dollars' worth of Michigan goods exported to Taiwan that year. In
16 early March 2024, the state of Michigan opened the Michigan Taiwan
17 Office to promote further investment by Taiwanese firms in our
18 state. There is great potential for future growth if we continue to
19 deepen our ties with Taiwan; and

20 Whereas, In conducting business with Taiwan, Michigan
21 businesses should refer to Taiwan as "Taiwan." In 1979, the United
22 States enacted the Taiwan Relations Act to provide for the
23 continuation of relations between the people of the United States
24 and the people on the island of Taiwan. Section 4(b)(1) of the act
25 provides: "Whenever the laws of the United States refer or relate
26 to foreign countries, nations, states, governments, or similar
27 entities, such terms shall include and such laws shall apply with
28 respect to Taiwan." Thus, it is legitimate for Michigan businesses
29 to refer to Taiwan as "Taiwan" when conducting business and

1 establishing ties with Taiwan; and

2 Whereas, The United States is actively taking steps to
3 strengthen bilateral trade between the United States and Taiwan. On
4 June 1, 2023, representatives of the American Institute in Taiwan
5 and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the
6 United States signed a bilateral trade agreement under the U.S.-
7 Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade, and Congress enacted
8 legislation to approve and implement that agreement in August 2023.
9 The first agreement under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st
10 Century Trade officially came into effect on December 10, 2024,
11 marking a significant milestone. Negotiations regarding a second
12 agreement are ongoing. While this progress is encouraging, an
13 avoidance of double taxation agreement for Taiwan has not yet been
14 enacted, though legislation on this subject has been approved in
15 the United States House of Representatives. Taiwan also remains
16 excluded from the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity;
17 and

18 Whereas, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "integrated
19 diplomacy," highlighting values-based diplomacy, alliance
20 diplomacy, and economic and trade diplomacy. This policy
21 prioritizes mutual assistance and robust relationships with
22 governments that share common values. Taiwan is capable of, and
23 willing to, fulfill its responsibilities and collaborate with the
24 world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aid and disease
25 control; now, therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we express our
27 commitment to the strengthening and deepening of ties between the
28 state of Michigan and Taiwan; and be it further

29 Resolved, That we urge all enterprises in Michigan to refer to

1 Taiwan as "Taiwan," consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act; and
2 be it further

3 Resolved, That we urge the United States and Taiwan to enter
4 into additional bilateral trade agreements and an avoidance of
5 double taxation agreement; and be it further

6 Resolved, That we support the inclusion of Taiwan in the Indo-
7 Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity; and be it further

8 Resolved, That we support Taiwan's meaningful participation in
9 international organizations, such as the United Nations, the World
10 Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization,
11 the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the
12 International Criminal Police Organization, which impact the
13 health, safety, and well-being of not only the people of Taiwan,
14 but the rest of the world; and be it further

15 Resolved, That we support Taiwan's aspiration to make more
16 contributions in international societies; and be it further

17 Resolved, That we support Taiwan in its efforts to increase
18 its international profile.