

1 _____ RESOLUTION NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____

3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA REAFFIRMING THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF MONTANA AND TAIWAN;
6 WELCOMING BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT TALKS; AND SUPPORTING TAIWAN'S MEANINGFUL
7 PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

8
9 WHEREAS, Taiwan was the 11th largest trading partner of the United States in 2019 with a bilateral
10 trade volume of \$85.5 billion, and according to the United States Census Bureau, Taiwan became the ninth
11 largest trading partner in the first half of 2020 with a bilateral trade volume of \$42.8 billion; and

12 WHEREAS, Taiwan remains the seventh largest export market for the agricultural goods of the United
13 States, including the sixth largest market for United States beef, valued at approximately \$3.57 billion a year
14 between 2017 and 2019; and

15 WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2021, Taiwan President Tsai Ing-Wen announced the removal of
16 restrictions on importing United States beef over 30 months of age and United States pork containing
17 ractopamine, demonstrating Taiwan's efforts to eliminate trade barriers; and

18 WHEREAS, Taiwan was the State of Montana's sixth largest export market in 2019, valued at \$58
19 million in sales, which grew 14.5% over 2018; and

20 WHEREAS, Congress passed the Taiwan Travel Act and the Taiwan Allies International Protection and
21 Enhancement Initiative Act in 2018 and 2019 to encourage bilateral governmental exchange between the
22 United States and Taiwan and to support Taiwan's international participation; and

23 WHEREAS, between August 9-12, 2020, United States Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex
24 Azar led a delegation to Taiwan to express the United States government's support of Taiwan and to recognize
25 Taiwan's contributions during the global public health pandemic of the novel coronavirus; and

26 WHEREAS, the year 2021 is the 36th anniversary of the sisterhood between the State of Montana and
27 Taiwan. In 2020, during the pandemic, Taiwan donated nearly 20 million surgical masks all over the world.
28 Demonstrating Taiwan's friendship and commitment to the State of Montana, Taiwan sent 30,000 surgical

1 masks to Montana's frontline responders and another 10,000 surgical masks to Montana's judicial personnel;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the State of Montana reaffirms its dedication to strengthening closer trade and cultural ties
4 with Taiwan, supporting increased bilateral trade and investment, and encouraging further governmental
5 exchange.

6
7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
8 THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9 (1) That the State of Montana reaffirms its commitment to a stronger and deeper relationship with the
10 people of Taiwan, in particular during this year, the 36th anniversary of the Montana-Taiwan sisterhood.

11 (2) That Montana supports the United States' achievements concerning the bilateral trade agreement
12 with Taiwan.

13 (3) That in recognition of Taiwan's contribution to global public health security and a broad range of
14 other issues, including humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and empowerment of women, which includes
15 hosting regular forums under the United States-Taiwan Global Cooperation and Training Framework, the State
16 of Montana supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations.

17 (4) That the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Montana Congressional
18 Delegation, Governor Gianforte, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Wu, and Director General Daniel Chen of
19 the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle.

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