

State of South Dakota

NINETIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2015

643W0567

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Introduced by: Senator Rave and Representatives Hunt and Rounds

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, endorsing the thirty-first anniversary of sister state relations
2 with the Republic of China (Taiwan), Taiwan's inclusion in the Trans-Pacific Partnership
3 (TPP) and Taiwan's participation as an observer in the International Civil Aviation
4 Organization (ICAO).

5 WHEREAS, on December 7, 1984, the State of South Dakota and the Republic of China
6 (Taiwan) entered into a sister state relationship of enduring friendship and international
7 cooperation; and

8 WHEREAS, Taiwan shares with South Dakota the common values of freedom, democracy,
9 human rights, and rule of law; and

10 WHEREAS, over the past thirty-one years, the bonds of true friendship and steadfast trade
11 partnership between South Dakota and Taiwan have been strengthened, resulting in a strong
12 economic, social, cultural exchange, and tourism; and

13 WHEREAS, every other year, Taiwan has sent an agricultural trade goodwill mission to the
14 U.S. Midwest region including South Dakota to demonstrate Taiwan's continuing goodwill and
15 willingness to purchase South Dakota agricultural products and the South Dakota agricultural



1 industry has benefitted greatly over the past two decades from the sale of beef, wheat, and corn
2 to Taiwan; and

3 WHEREAS, the commercial interaction between South Dakota and Taiwan has grown
4 substantially with each passing year, resulting in increased economic growth for both Taiwan
5 and South Dakota; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States ranks as Taiwan's third largest trading partner; Taiwan is the
7 tenth largest trading partner of the United States; and bilateral trade has reached sixty-three
8 billion six hundred million US dollars; and

9 WHEREAS, the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) meeting between the
10 United States and Taiwan is laying the groundwork for a possible Bilateral Investment
11 Agreement (BIA); negotiation for a BIA is an important step toward further strengthening
12 bilateral trade and paving the way for entering into a Free Trade Agreement between the United
13 States and Taiwan, thereby increasing the exports of South Dakota to Taiwan and creating
14 bilateral investment through tariff reduction and other trade facilitation measures; and

15 WHEREAS, Taiwan, seeking to contribute to greater regional integration in the Asia-Pacific
16 region and promotion of bilateral investment and trade relations with the United States,
17 applauds the United States announcement of its intent not only to join the Trans-Pacific
18 Partnership (TPP), the proposed twenty-first century trade agreement between the U.S. and
19 eleven other Asia-Pacific Rim countries, but to expand TPP membership in the future to include
20 other countries, such as the Republic of China (Taiwan); and

21 WHEREAS, Taiwan's inclusion in the TPP would contribute substantially to the depth,
22 viability, and quality of the TPP, Taiwan's strong economic weight in the Asia-Pacific and the
23 world, its well-developed knowledge base and highly-skilled workforce, its vital position along
24 regional supply chains and value chains, and the positive economic and strategic gains for all

1 make Taiwan an ideal candidate economy for the TPP's expansion; and

2 WHEREAS, the development of international civil aviation in a safe and orderly manner is
3 the supreme cause of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); the international
4 civil aviation depends to a great extent on multilateral cooperation to achieve the goals of safety
5 order and sustainable development; and

6 WHEREAS, Taiwan is an integral part of the global aviation network; with an excellent
7 geographic location, Taiwan is a key aviation hub for regions in Asia and the world; and

8 WHEREAS, Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport is ranked sixteenth globally in
9 international passenger traffic by the Airports Council International (ACI), and fifty-eight
10 domestic and foreign airlines connect Taiwan with one hundred seventeen cities across the
11 world; and

12 WHEREAS, the Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR) each year provides more than one
13 million three hundred thousand navigation services to aircraft carrying forty-five million
14 passengers and over one million six hundred eighty thousand tons of cargo. The large volume
15 of cargo and passenger traffic make Taiwan an important part of the global air transport
16 network; and

17 WHEREAS, without Taiwan's participation, international flight plans, regulations, and
18 procedure that the ICAO formulates will be incomplete and unsafe; and

19 WHEREAS, Taiwan's request to participate in the ICAO is fully in line with the United
20 States government's policy of supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in United Nations
21 specialized agencies:

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninetieth Legislature of the
23 State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein:

24 (1) That the South Dakota Legislature is celebrating the thirty-first anniversary of sister

1 state relations with the Republic of China (Taiwan); and

2 (2) That the South Dakota Legislature supports Taiwan's efforts to entry into the
3 Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and endorses the signing of the Bilateral Investment
4 Agreement (BIA)with the United States; and

5 (3) That the South Dakota Legislature endorses Taiwan's participation in the
6 International CivilAviation Organization (ICAO) as an observer; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution are sent to the United States
8 Secretary of State John F. Kerry, President Ma Ying-jeou of the Republic of China (Taiwan),
9 Secretary General Raymond Benjamin of the International Civil Aviation Organization, each
10 member of the South Dakota Congressional Delegation, and Director General Jack J.C. Yang
11 of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office.