



SPONSOR: Sen. Townsend

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12

REAFFIRMING THE SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AND TAIWAN,  
STRENGTHENING BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN, AND SUPPORTING TAIWAN'S  
PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the Republic of China ("Taiwan") and the United States have enjoyed a longstanding partnership and  
2 share the common values of freedom, democracy, and human rights. In 2019, Taiwan was ranked as the second freest  
3 country in Asia by Freedom House and ranked tenth among 180 world economies in terms of economic freedom by the  
4 Heritage Foundation, demonstrating the strength and vitality of its democratic system and showcasing Taiwan as a beacon  
5 of democracy in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, the Taiwan Relations Act ("TRA") was signed into law on April 10, 1979, codifying the historically  
7 close relations between the United States and Taiwan that existed before January 1, 1979; and which serves as the  
8 foundation to preserve and promote continued bilateral bonds; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1982, President Ronald Reagan further clarified the importance and resilience of the United States-  
10 Taiwan relationship with the issuance of the Six Assurances, which, together with the TRA, are the cornerstones of the  
11 United States' policy with respect to Taiwan; and

12 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan have forged ever closer economic and security relations over the last 4  
13 decades based on their shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free market principles. The United States is  
14 now Taiwan's second-largest trading partner and second-largest destination of Taiwan's outward investment, and Taiwan is  
15 the eleventh largest trading partner of the United States and a key destination for United States agricultural exports; and

16 WHEREAS, the State of Delaware is proud of the sister-state relationship it has enjoyed with Taiwan since  
17 September 12, 2000, marked by strong bilateral trade, education, and cultural exchange. In 2017, the bilateral trade between  
18 Delaware and Taiwan amounted to nearly \$193.6 million, making Taiwan our twelfth-largest exporting trading partner  
19 globally and third-largest importing trading partner in Asia, demonstrating that Taiwan is not only a friendly sister-state of  
20 Delaware but also an important economic partner; and

21 WHEREAS, in the 2017 through 2018 academic year, 22,454 students from Taiwan studied in the United States,  
22 making Taiwan the seventh-leading place of origin for students coming to the United States and these students contributed

23 more than \$824 million to the United States' economy through their spending on tuition, accommodations, and living  
24 expenses; and

25 WHEREAS, Delaware welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic partnership to increase trade and  
26 investment and endorses Taiwan's effort to secure the signing of a United States-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement to  
27 boost Delaware exports to Taiwan and to bring more Taiwanese investment to Delaware; and

28 WHEREAS, Taiwan has proven to be a very valuable contributor in a broad range of global issues, and Taiwan  
29 should be granted access to meaningfully participate in various international organizations including the World Health  
30 Organization, International Civil Aviation Organization, United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change, and  
31 International Criminal Police Organization.

32 NOW, THEREFORE:

33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 150th General Assembly of the State of Delaware that the Senate  
34 celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the enactment of the TRA, endorses Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of a Bilateral  
35 Trade Agreement with the United States, commends Taiwan's vibrant full-fledged democracy, reaffirms the Senate's  
36 commitment to strengthening and deepening the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the State of Delaware,  
37 continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation and contribution in international organizations which impact the  
38 health, safety, and well-being of its people, and supports Taiwan's aspiration to make more contribution in international  
39 societies.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate send a copy of this Resolution to Governor John  
41 Carney and another copy to Mr. Stanley Kao, Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in  
42 the United States.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Senate Resolution reaffirms the sister-state relationship between the State of Delaware and Taiwan, supports the strengthening of bilateral trade relations with Taiwan, and supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in and contribution to international organizations.

Author: Senator Townsend