



SPONSOR: Sen. Townsend

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

REAFFIRMING THE SISTER-STATE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AND TAIWAN AND SUPPORTING THE STRENGTHENING OF BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN, THE SIGNING OF A BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN, AND 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 2021, Taiwan was ranked as the second freest country  
3 in Asia by Freedom House and ranked sixth among 184 world economies in terms of economic freedom by the Heritage  
4 Foundation, demonstrating the strength and vitality of its democratic system and showcasing Taiwan as a beacon of  
5 democracy in the world; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Delaware is proud of the sister-state relationship it has enjoyed with Taiwan since  
7 September 12, 2000, marked by strong bilateral trade, education, and cultural exchange; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan have forged ever closer economic and security relations over the last 4  
9 decades based on their shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free market principles; with the United States  
10 now Taiwan's second-largest trading partner and second-largest destination of Taiwan's outward investment, and Taiwan is  
11 the ninth largest trading partner of the United States and a key destination for United States agricultural exports; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2020, the bilateral trade between Delaware and Taiwan amounted to nearly \$237 million, making  
13 Taiwan Delaware's eighth largest exporting trading partner globally and fifth-largest importing trading partner in Asia,  
14 demonstrating that Taiwan is not only a friendly sister-state of Delaware but also an important economic partner; and

15 WHEREAS, in the 2019 through 2020 academic year, 23,724 students from Taiwan studied in the United States,  
16 making Taiwan the seventh-leading place of origin for students coming to the United States and these students contributed  
17 more than \$991 million to the United States' economy through their spending on tuition, accommodations, and living  
18 expenses; and

19 WHEREAS, Taiwan has effectively contained the spread of COVID-19 by providing open and transparent  
20 information and Taiwan's model of COVID-19 prevention has become an internationally recognized paradigm for effectively  
21 containing the spread of the pandemic; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2020, Taiwan donated 80,000 surgical face masks to the State of Delaware to protect frontline health  
23 workers, demonstrating that Taiwan stands strong with Delaware in difficult times; and

24 WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan gifted 600 isolation gowns to the Delaware Health Care  
25 Facilities Association for Delaware's long-term care community through the Sister Cities program; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2021, the State of Delaware celebrates the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the sister-state partnership with Taiwan  
27 and looks forward to an even closer relationship between Delaware and Taiwan in the future; and

28 WHEREAS, Delaware welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic partnership to increase trade and  
29 investment, supports Taiwan's effort to secure the signing of a United States-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement to boost  
30 Delaware exports to Taiwan, and supports re-opening a trade office in Taiwan to bring more Taiwanese investment to  
31 Delaware; and

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

36 NOW, THEREFORE:

37 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware that the Senate supports  
38 Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement with the United States; commends Taiwan's vibrant  
39 full-fledged democracy; celebrates the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of sister-state ties between Taiwan and the State of Delaware;  
40 reaffirms the Senate's commitment to strengthening and deepening the sister-state partnership between the State of Delaware  
41 and Taiwan; continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation and contribution in international organizations which  
42 impact the health, safety, and well-being of its people; and supports Taiwan's aspiration to make more contributions in the  
43 international community.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate send a copy of this Resolution to Governor John  
45 Carney and another copy to Ms. Bi-khim Hsiao, Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office  
46 in the United States.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Senate Resolution celebrates the 21st anniversary of the sister-state partnership between the State of Delaware and Taiwan and supports the strengthening of bilateral trade relations with Taiwan, the signing of a bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan, and Taiwan's meaningful participation in and contribution to international organizations.

Author: Senator Townsend