THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 824

Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY WHEELAND, PICKETT, MURT, LEE, TOEPEL, MACKENZIE, READSHAW, McCLINTON, MILLARD, SAYLOR AND RYAN, MARCH 13, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 13, 2020

A RESOLUTION

- Enhancing the friendship and bilateral relationship between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Taiwan and congratulating President Dr. Tsai Ing-wen and Vice President-elect Dr. Lai 3 Ching-te. 4 5 WHEREAS, The United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan) uphold the same values of freedom and democracy and are bonded 6 by their shared commitment to human rights, the rule of law and 8 a free market economy; and 9 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States passed the landmark Taiwan Relations Act, which has served as the 10 11 cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations for decades; and 12 WHEREAS, On January 11, 2020, Taiwan held another successful 13 election of the president and vice president, re-electing Dr. Tsai Ing-wen as president and electing Dr. Lai Ching-te as vice 14 15 president, a demonstration of Taiwan's vibrant democracy; and 16 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the
- 19 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the Commonwealth's 5th-largest export

United States, with bilateral trade totaling \$85.5 billion in

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2019; and

- 1 market in Asia, and the Commonwealth is home to a growing number
- 2 of Taiwanese companies that create thousands of jobs in
- 3 Pennsylvania; and
- 4 WHEREAS, In order to strengthen bilateral trade with the
- 5 United States, the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
- 6 has expressed its wish to sign a Bilateral Trade Agreement with
- 7 the United States; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth and Taiwan have developed an
- 9 enduring and mutually beneficial partnership that facilitates
- 10 economic, cultural and people-to-people exchanges over the
- 11 years; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth established a trade and investment
- 13 office in Taiwan in 2005, promoting a fruitful relationship of
- 14 economic cooperation between the two sides; and
- 15 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth and Taiwan signed an
- 16 intergovernmental agreement regarding the mutual recognition of
- 17 driver's licenses in 2015, creating greater convenience for the
- 18 people on both sides and deepening relations between Taiwan and
- 19 the Commonwealth; therefore be it
- 20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
- 21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania support enhancing relations between
- 22 the Commonwealth and Taiwan, and it is fitting and proper that
- 23 the House of Representatives congratulate President Dr. Tsai
- 24 Ing-wen on her re-election as the President of Taiwan and Vice
- 25 President-elect Dr. Lai Ching-te on his election to office; and
- 26 be it further
- 27 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
- 28 President Dr. Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan through the Taipei Economic
- 29 and Cultural Office in New York.