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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 108 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY YAW, BARTOLOTTA, J. WARD, STEFANO, MENSCH,  
GORDNER, PITTMAN AND MASTRIANO, MAY 6, 2021

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 6, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting enhancing the friendship and bilateral relationship  
2 between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Taiwan and  
3 supporting the signing of a Bilateral Trade Agreement in  
4 order to further enhance the economic and trade partnership  
5 between the United States and Taiwan.

6 WHEREAS, The United States and the Republic of China, known  
7 commonly in the United States as Taiwan, uphold the same values  
8 of freedom and democracy and are bonded by their shared  
9 commitment to human rights, the rule of law and a free market  
10 economy; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Congress passed the landmark  
12 Taiwan Relations Act, which has served as the cornerstone of  
13 United States-Taiwan relations for decades; and

14 WHEREAS, On August 10, 2020, the United States and Taiwan  
15 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on health cooperation  
16 to strengthen ongoing cooperation on global health security,  
17 control of infectious diseases and the development of drugs and  
18 vaccines intended to fight COVID-19 and to prevent future  
19 international health crises through further collaborations; and

1       WHEREAS, Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the  
2 United States, with bilateral trade totaling \$83.17 billion in  
3 2020; and

4       WHEREAS, Taiwan has been committed to further enhancing its  
5 economic ties with the United States by seeking to sign a  
6 reciprocal Bilateral Trade Agreement and an Avoidance Double  
7 Taxation Agreement and agreeing to ease restrictions on the  
8 importation of United States agricultural products; and

9       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Taiwan have  
10 developed an enduring and mutually beneficial partnership that  
11 facilitates economic, cultural and people-to-people exchanges  
12 over the years; and

13       WHEREAS, Taiwan is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's 6th  
14 largest export market in Asia and the Commonwealth of  
15 Pennsylvania is home to a growing number of Taiwanese companies  
16 that create thousands of jobs in Pennsylvania, and a high  
17 standard BTA would encourage even greater access to Taiwan's  
18 market, reduce tariff and nontariff barriers to trade and  
19 increase security and economic growth for both the United States  
20 and Taiwan, as well as Pennsylvania in particular; and

21       WHEREAS, The MOUs between the United States and Taiwan on  
22 Scientific and Technological Cooperation and International  
23 Education Cooperation lay the foundation for broader exchanges  
24 and cooperation between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and  
25 Taiwan on innovation, critical supply chains and language  
26 education; and

27       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Taiwan signed  
28 an intergovernmental agreement regarding the mutual recognition  
29 of driver's licenses in 2015, creating greater convenience for  
30 the people on both sides and deepening relations between Taiwan

1 and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

2 WHEREAS, The United States has assisted Taiwan in  
3 participating in the World Health Organization, the  
4 International Civil Aviation Organization and the International  
5 Criminal Police Organization and will continue to support  
6 Taiwan's meaningful participation in these and other  
7 international organizations; therefore be it

8 RESOLVED, That the Senate support enhancing the friendship  
9 and bilateral relationship between the Commonwealth of  
10 Pennsylvania and Taiwan and support the signing of a Bilateral  
11 Trade Agreement in order to further enhance the economic and  
12 trade partnership between the United States and Taiwan; and be  
13 it further

14 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
15 the President of the United States, the United States Trade  
16 Representative and the United States Secretary of State, as well  
17 as to President Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan through the Taipei  
18 Economic and Cultural Office in New York.