

1 A RESOLUTION commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States of
2 America and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States of America are longstanding allies who
4 both deeply cherish the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the
5 rule of law; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979,
7 the Taiwan Travel Act in 2018, and the TAIPEI Act in 2019; and in 2020, the United
8 States and Taiwan have enjoyed a high point in bilateral relations, including through the
9 highest-ranking official visits in 40 years and through the establishment of the US-
10 Taiwan Economic Prosperity Partnership and the US-Taiwan Educational Initiative, to
11 expand economic exchanges and to promote academic freedom in English and Mandarin
12 language instruction; and

13 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a beacon of democracy and freedom in the Asia-Pacific,
14 despite continuous threats from the authoritarian neighbor China, which has encroached
15 on Taiwan's security by flying in Taiwan's air defense identification zone and across the
16 median line of the Taiwan Strait, as well as degraded the freedom of Hong Kong through
17 the 2020 Hong Kong National Security Law; therefore, Taiwan's democracy needs to be
18 supported by like-minded allies such as this representative body; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2020, Taiwan has achieved immense success combatting the
20 COVID-19 pandemic and contributed extensive resources to helping the international
21 community, including through the global donations of tens of millions of surgical and
22 N95 masks, hundreds of thousands of isolation gowns, and tens of thousands of forehead
23 thermometers. This includes the donation of 100,000 surgical masks to the
24 Commonwealth of Kentucky; and

25 WHEREAS, beginning in January 2021, Taiwan will significantly ease import
26 restriction on U.S. pork and beef products, significantly growing Kentucky and the United
27 States' agricultural exports to Taiwan and paving the way for deeper economic

1 cooperation; and

2 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest trading partner, and the
3 United States is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner. Taiwan support an estimated
4 330,000 jobs in the United States, and Taiwan is the 21st-largest export market of
5 Kentucky. Taiwan is Kentucky's 17th-largest import country, investing 11 million dollars
6 in Kentucky and supporting an estimated 1,900 jobs in the Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, Kentucky welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic
8 partnership, such as the signing of a US-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement and the
9 establishment of its trade office in Taiwan in order to enhance the special sister-state
10 relations it has had since 1982 with Taiwan; to encourage further business, educational,
11 cultural, and people-to-people exchanges between the citizens of both nations; and to
12 recover better together in all post-pandemic economic recovery efforts;

13 NOW, THEREFORE,

14 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
15 ***Kentucky:***

16 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby commends and supports Taiwan's democracy,
17 freedom, and the nation's meaningful participation in international organizations and
18 cooperation such as the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation
19 Organization, INTERPOL, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the
20 Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership.

21 ➔Section 2. The Senate supports the signing of a US-Taiwan bilateral trade
22 agreement and an educational memorandum of understanding with Kentucky promoting
23 Mandarin and English study exchanges.

24 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit an appropriate copy of
25 this Resolution to Mr. Michael Adams, Kentucky Secretary of State, and Mr. Elliot Yi-
26 lung Wang, Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta,
27 Georgia.