

REFERENCE TITLE: United States; Taiwan; supporting trade

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HCR 2061

Introduced by
Representative Blattman

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING A CLOSER TRADE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
TAIWAN.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, the trade in goods between the United States and the
2 Republic of China (Taiwan) totaled an estimated \$135.6 billion in 2022,
3 with \$43.7 billion in exports and \$91.8 billion in imports, ranking Taiwan
4 as the 9th largest trading partner of the United States; and

5 Whereas, 161 members of Congress signed a letter to the then United
6 States Trade Representative on December 19, 2019, while 50 United States
7 Senators signed a separate letter to him on October 1, 2020, both
8 encouraging the United States government to work toward initiating
9 negotiations on a bilateral trade agreement with Taiwan; and

10 Whereas, the initial agreement of the United States-Taiwan
11 Initiative on 21st-Century Trade, signed on June 1, 2023, represented a
12 milestone for United States-Taiwan trade relations, which will facilitate
13 the development of a roadmap for negotiations on economic and trade
14 agreements with highstandard commitments; and

15 Whereas, Taiwan was Arizona's ninth largest export market in 2022,
16 reaching \$765 million in total United States exports to Taiwan originating
17 from Arizona. In total, more than 7,895 jobs in Arizona are supported by
18 Taiwanese-affiliated companies and the exports of goods and services to
19 Taiwan; and

20 Whereas, the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC) has
21 increased its investment from \$12 billion to \$40 billion to construct two
22 advanced fabs in Phoenix, Arizona, making one of the largest foreign
23 investments in United States history. These two fabs will create 10,000
24 highpaying, hightech jobs, including 4,500 direct TSMC jobs in Arizona
25 over multiple years; and

26 Whereas, Taiwan's International Trade Administration, the Ministry
27 of Economic Affairs and the Arizona Commerce Authority signed the
28 Memorandum of Understanding on Trade and Economic Cooperation on October
29 5, 2021, aiming to foster further economic engagement and to establish or
30 expand operations and supply chains cooperation between Taiwan and
31 Arizona; and

32 Whereas, on July 12, 2013, the President of the United States signed
33 into law H.R. 1151, an act supporting Taiwan's participation as an
34 observer in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); and

35 Whereas, on March 18, 2016, the President of the United States
36 signed into law S. 2426, an act directing the United States Secretary of
37 State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the
38 International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL); and

39 Whereas, on March 26, 2020, the President of the United States
40 signed into law S. 1678, an act stating that it should be the policy of
41 the United States to advocate, as appropriate, for Taiwan's membership in
42 all international organizations in which statehood is not a requirement
43 and in which the United States is also a participant and for Taiwan to be
44 granted observer status in other appropriate international organizations;
45 and

1 Whereas, the United States Secretary of State issued a statement on
2 October 26, 2021, encouraging all United Nations Member States to join us
3 in supporting Taiwan's robust and meaningful participation throughout the
4 United Nations system and in the international community; and

5 Whereas, the Arizona State Legislature passed resolutions in support
6 of Taiwan's participation in international organizations, including
7 INTERPOL and United Nations specialized agencies such as the World Health
8 Organization (WHO), the ICAO and the United Nations Framework Convention
9 on Climate Change (UNFCCC), respectively, in 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018,
10 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023; and

11 Whereas, the Taiwan Travel Act, signed into law by the President of
12 the United States on March 16, 2018, allows officials at all levels of the
13 federal government to travel to Taiwan to meet their Taiwanese
14 counterparts and allows highlevel Taiwanese officials to enter the United
15 States under conditions that demonstrate appropriate respect to those
16 officials.

17 Therefore

18 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,
19 the Senate concurring:

20 1. That the Members of the Legislature support the negotiation of a
21 United States-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement and support Taiwan's
22 inclusion in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.

23 2. That the Members of the Legislature support Taiwan's meaningful
24 participation in the United Nations system, including WHO, ICAO and UNFCCC
25 and support Taiwan's inclusion in INTERPOL.

26 3. That the Members of the Legislature acknowledge the achievements
27 made by Arizona and Taiwan in the fields of economy, trade, technology,
28 education and culture since the establishment of their sister-state
29 relations on July 28, 1980, and encourage the continued bilateral
30 cooperation and exchanges between the two states in the future.