



NASS Resolution Supporting U.S. – Taiwan Bilateral Trade and Investment

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are long-standing friends with a shared historical relationship and the dearly cherished values of freedom, democracy, and rule of law; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the United States' key trading partners, with the two-way trade volume between the United States and Taiwan reaching \$67.4 billion in 2014, making Taiwan the United States' 10th-largest trading partner; and

WHEREAS, the United States was the largest source of foreign direct investment in Taiwan, cumulatively investing \$23 billion as of January 2014; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has been an important cooperative partner in the SelectUSA investment initiative, a U.S. government program designed to promote business investment in the U.S, and Taiwan has sent one of the largest delegations to participate in the SelectUSA Investment Summit in 2013 and 2015 respectively; and

WHEREAS Taiwan and the United States resumed negotiations under the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) in March 2013 after a six-year hiatus and held the eighth round of negotiations in April 2014; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 TIFA Council meeting welcomed steps by Taiwan authorities to improve trade secrets protection, address pharmaceutical issues, clarify investment criteria, lift data localization requirements in the financial sector, and to revise standards affecting U.S. market access; and

WHEREAS, in 2014 the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs stated that the U.S. was considering Taiwan's interest in restarting exploratory talks for a Bilateral Investment Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) supports continued efforts between the United States and Taiwan to strengthen and expand opportunities for bilateral trade and investment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the copies of this resolution be sent to the United States Secretary of State and Office of the United States Trade Representative.

Adopted the 12th day of July 2015
in Portland, ME

EXPIRES: Summer 2020