

By: Senator(s) Hopson

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 544

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN
2 FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ON
3 SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016, AND REAFFIRMING THE STATE OF
4 MISSISSIPPI'S FREE MARKET POLICY TOWARD TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF
5 CHINA.

6 WHEREAS, the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan cast
7 their sacred vote on Saturday, January 16, 2016, and elected Dr.
8 Tsai Ing-wen (Democratic Progressive Party), Taiwan's opposition
9 leader, as the first-ever female President in the history of the
10 Republic of China on Taiwan and Chen Chien-jen as Vice President.
11 President-elect Tsai Ing-wen is the first female leader of a
12 country in the Chinese-speaking world; and

13 WHEREAS, the Democratic Progressive Party Tsai-Chen ticket
14 received 6,894,744 votes (56.12%), defeating the Kuomintang
15 candidates with 3,813,365 (31.04%), and the People First Party
16 with 1,576,861 (12.83%). Voter turnout was 66.2%. In the
17 Legislative Yuan elections, the Democratic Progressive Party won
18 68 seats of the 113 total seats, while the Kuomintang took 35; and



19 WHEREAS, the electoral results make the third transition of
20 political power of the government of the Republic of China on
21 Taiwan since the first popular vote of Presidential election held
22 in 1996, as well as a transition of Taiwan's national legislative
23 majority for the first time in history. The election has drawn
24 international attention as people of Taiwan are making history
25 again and proof to the world that democracy works. The Republic
26 of China on Taiwan is the only full-fledged democracy in the
27 Chinese-speaking world; and

28 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the State of Mississippi have both
29 enjoyed bonds of sister-state relationship since 1983 and Taiwan
30 is America's 10th largest trading partner in the world. The
31 Republic of China (Taiwan) and the State of Mississippi have
32 nurtured and maintained a friendship built upon unwavering bonds
33 that will be beneficial and rewarding for both governments and
34 their citizens now and in the future; and

35 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety of the State of
36 Mississippi and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications
37 of the Republic of China (Taiwan) have signed a mutual agreement
38 enabling the exchange of the valid noncommercial drivers'
39 licenses, which marks a great achievement for the
40 Mississippi-Taiwan bilateral relationship and will significantly
41 benefit businessmen and students from both sides. When
42 Mississippi State University signed an MOU with National Pingtung
43 University of Science and Technology, these two universities



44 affirmed their intent to promote academic exchanges including
45 development of mutually beneficial academic programs as well as
46 exchange of faculty, students and other materials for the purpose
47 of teaching, research and extension; and

48 WHEREAS, Taiwan has become a multiparty democracy in which
49 all citizens have the right to participate freely in the political
50 process. The people of Taiwan have, by their vigorous
51 participation in electoral campaigns and public debate,
52 strengthened the foundations of a free and democratic way of life:

53 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
54 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN,
55 That:

56 (1) The people of Taiwan are to be congratulated for the
57 successful conclusion of Presidential elections on January 16,
58 2016, and for their continuing efforts in developing and
59 sustaining a free, democratic society which respects human rights
60 and embraces free markets; and

61 (2) President Dr. Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan is to be
62 congratulated for her significant contributions to freedom and
63 democracy on Taiwan; and

64 (3) President-elect Dr. Tsai Ing-wen and Vice
65 President-elect Chen Chien-jen of Taiwan are to be congratulated
66 for their victory, and they have the strong support and best
67 wishes of the Mississippi Legislature and the American people for
68 a successful administration.



69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we do hereby commend the
70 relationship between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the State
71 of Mississippi and encourage the future growth and friendship
72 between this great state and this illustrious nation.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
74 presented to President Dr. Tsai Ing-wen and Vice President Chen
75 Chien-jen, forwarded to the Mississippi Development Authority and
76 the United States Department of State, and made available to the
77 members of the Capital Press Corps.

