

By: Representatives Reynolds, Byrd, Bell  
(21st), Bain, Banks, Baria, Bennett, Brown,  
Carpenter, Corley, Currie, Evans (91st),  
Hale, Johnson (87th), Ladner, Massengill,  
McNeal, Oliver, Read, Rushing, Steverson,  
Zuber

To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING FURTHER ECONOMIC TIES AND  
2 FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND THE STATE OF  
3 MISSISSIPPI; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

4 WHEREAS, for decades the United States of America and the  
5 Republic of China (Taiwan) have fostered a close relationship of  
6 enormous mutual economic, cultural and strategic benefit to both  
7 parties; and

8 WHEREAS, bilateral trade between the United States and Taiwan  
9 reached 68.2 billion in 2017, making Taiwan the 11th largest  
10 trading partner of the United States and the largest per capita  
11 importer of United States agricultural products, and both nations  
12 could realize further economic gains through establishing a  
13 bilateral trade agreement (BTA) as well as enhancing platforms  
14 such as a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) and  
15 Digital Economy Forum (DEF); and

16 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) maintains biennial  
17 agricultural procurement missions to the United States to sign  
18 multi-billion-dollar supply deals and has been actively



19 dispatching a substantial delegation to participate in the  
20 SelectUSA Investment Summit since 2013; and

21 WHEREAS, the World Economic Forum's 2018 Global  
22 Competitiveness Report rated Taiwan 13th amongst 140 economies and  
23 recognized Taiwan as one of the World's Four Super Innovators,  
24 resulting from wide-ranging regulatory efforts to build an  
25 environment conducive to financial sector development and foreign  
26 direct investment, and underscoring the impact of Taiwan's  
27 Five-plus-two industrial innovation initiative targeting the  
28 high-growth sectors of biotech and pharmaceuticals, green energy,  
29 national defense, smart machinery and Internet of Things, as well  
30 as the circular economy and a new paradigm of agriculture; and

31 WHEREAS, the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 has continued to  
32 provide a sturdy foundation for robust United States-Taiwan  
33 relations to flourish for nearly 40 years, contributing to peace  
34 and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, and this year the Taiwan  
35 Travel Act was passed by both chambers of the United States  
36 Congress and signed by President Trump to encourage high-level  
37 officials' visits between our two countries; and

38 WHEREAS, both countries have further affirmed their  
39 partnership in such areas as international humanitarian  
40 assistance, public health and technology under the Global  
41 Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF) established in June  
42 2015; and



WHEREAS, 2019 marks the 36th anniversary of  
Mississippi-Taiwan sister-state relations, which have nurtured and  
maintained a friendship built upon unwavering bonds beneficial and  
rewarding for both governments and their citizens now and in the  
future: Mississippi exported \$62,000,000.00 in goods and services  
to Taiwan in 2017, making Taiwan the 5th largest export partner  
for Mississippi in Asia and Taiwan sent a business delegation to  
visit Mississippi companies in November 2017, which reflects  
Taiwan's commitment to deepening economic ties with Mississippi;  
and

WHEREAS, travel from the Republic of China (Taiwan) to the  
United States increased by more than 50 percent since Taiwan's  
participation in the United States Visa Waiver Program in 2012,  
and Taiwan joined the United States Global Entry program in  
November 2017, and these significant efforts will continue to  
promote tourism and encourage exchanges between the two peoples;  
and

WHEREAS, nontraditional security threats are increasing in  
the 21st century, so the meaningful participation and inclusion of  
Taiwan, the 22nd largest economy in the world, to the  
International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the  
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the United  
Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the  
World Health Assembly (WHA) would be beneficial to all nations and  
their people:



68           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
69 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
70 THEREIN, That we do hereby encourage closer economic relationships  
71 between the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan) by  
72 negotiating a BTA between the two countries; commend Taiwan's  
73 inclusion in the United States Global Entry and Visa Waiver  
74 Program to encourage economic and cultural exchanges; support  
75 Taiwan's meaningful participation in the INTERPOL, ICAO, UNFCCC,  
76 and WHA; celebrate the 40th anniversary of enactment of the Taiwan  
77 Relations Act and the 36th anniversary of the sister-state  
78 relationship between the State of Mississippi and the Republic of  
79 China (Taiwan); and commend Mr. Peter Chen, Director General of  
80 the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, for efforts  
81 and contributions toward enhancing cooperation between Mississippi  
82 and Taiwan.

83           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
84 furnished to Mr. Peter C.Y. Chen and to the members of the Capitol  
85 Press Corps.

