

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 104

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 STATING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND REAFFIRMING THE STATE OF IDAHO'S COMMIT-
3 MENT TO THE STRONG AND DEEPENING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STATE OF IDAHO
4 AND TAIWAN AND ENCOURAGING ONGOING PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZATIONS THAT
5 IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND TRADE.

6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan), the United States, and in par-
8 ticular the State of Idaho share a historical and close relationship marked
9 by strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, scientific
10 and technological interest and tourism; and

11 WHEREAS, the Republic of China was the first republic in Asia and the
12 first full-fledged democracy in Chinese history and shares with the United
13 States and the State of Idaho the common values of freedom, democracy, human
14 rights and rule of law; and

15 WHEREAS, the United States ranks as Taiwan's third largest trading
16 partner, and Taiwan is the ninth largest trading partner of the United States
17 and the bilateral trade reached 67.2 billion United States dollars in 2011;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho and Taiwan have enjoyed a long and mutually
20 beneficial relationship with the prospect of further growth, and Taiwan was
21 Idaho's second largest export destination in 2011 with 761 million United
22 States dollars worth of Idaho goods shipped to Taiwan, including semiconduc-
23 tors, computers and capital equipment, food and agriculture, wood and build-
24 ing materials; and

25 WHEREAS, the United States on November 1, 2012, officially included
26 Taiwan in its Visa Waiver Program (VWP), allowing Taiwan's citizens to
27 travel to the United States for tourism or business for stays of 90 days or
28 less without being required to obtain a visa. The VWP is expected to increase
29 tourism and business between Taiwan and the United States, particularly
30 Idaho, with the prospect of 30%-40% growth of Taiwanese travelers to the
31 United States (400,000 in 2013); and

32 WHEREAS, the issue of United States beef export to Taiwan has been set-
33 tled; and

34 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho and the Province of Taiwan have enjoyed
35 their relationship since 1984; and

36 WHEREAS, President Ma Ying-jeou has worked tirelessly to uphold demo-
37 cratic principles in Taiwan, ensure the prosperity of Taiwan's 23 million
38 citizens, promote Taiwan's international standing as a responsible member
39 of the international community, increase participation in international or-
40 ganizations, dispatch humanitarian missions abroad and further improve re-
41 lations between the United States and Taiwan; and

1 WHEREAS, Taiwan, as a willing and contributing member of the world com-
2 munity, has made countless contributions of technical and financial assis-
3 tance in the wake of Hurricane Sandy and other natural disasters worldwide.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-
5 sion of the Sixty-second Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-
6 resentatives concurring therein, that the State of Idaho reaffirms its com-
7 mitment to the strong and deepening relationship between the State of Idaho
8 and Taiwan and encourages ongoing participation in organizations that im-
9 prove public safety, health and trade.