

Enrolled

House Joint Memorial 13

Sponsored by Representatives LIM, BUTLER; Representative THATCHER, Senator JOHNSON

To the President of the United States, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, and the United States Trade Representative, Ambassador Susan Schwab:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas countries that lower trade barriers and invite other countries to participate in their national economies enjoy higher standards of living; and

Whereas free trade allows consumers in all countries to have access to a wide range of higher quality goods, products and services and to pay less for those goods, products and services than is possible without free trade; and

Whereas the record of economic successes that flow from trade is unambiguous; and

Whereas the United States is economically vital in large part because the nation's markets are relatively free and open; and

Whereas international trade is a leading source of growth in the United States economy and trade with Asian countries is a significant and expanding part of United States international trade; and

Whereas Taiwan is a steadfast and stable regional ally that has a vibrant, dynamic and highly productive economy and is a leading source for technology-based production and innovation; and

Whereas Taiwan's importance in Asia as a source of capital and a linkage into China's vast market is nearly unparalleled; and

Whereas Taiwan's continuing efforts to liberalize the country's economy and build productive trading relationships have enabled the country to become a member of the Asian Development Bank and enter into the World Trade Organization in 2002, which shows that Taiwan has the respect and confidence of the world economic community; and

Whereas, despite Taiwan's importance to the United States as an ally and as the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, the percentage of Taiwan's international trade conducted with the United States has declined sharply, from just under half of Taiwan's trade activity in 1984 to about 20 percent of Taiwan's trade activity in recent years, a trend that may continue downward in future years; and

Whereas remaining trade barriers between the United States and Taiwan are a drag on growth and prosperity for both nations; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, urge the President, Ambassador Schwab and Congress to pursue negotiations to forge and ratify a free trade agreement with Taiwan that will lower the remaining trade barriers between the two countries, that will spur new investment, innovation and production and that will increase the nation's share of Taiwanese international trade; and be it further

Resolved, That any free trade agreement with Taiwan include provisions that:

(1) Require the consent of the Oregon Legislative Assembly to bind the State of Oregon to the free trade agreement; and

(2) Guarantee the State of Oregon the right to determine the state's own public policies under the trade agreement with respect to:

- (a) Public safety and health;
- (b) Environmental regulation and protection;
- (c) Human rights;
- (d) Labor regulation and worker protection;
- (e) Energy use, conservation or production;
- (f) Land use, protection and regulation;
- (g) State procurement regulation and preferences;
- (h) Licensing;
- (i) Economic and workforce development; and
- (j) Regulation, protection or promotion of any individual, profession, business firm, association, industry sector or cluster; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the United States Trade Representative and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by House May 2, 2007

Chief Clerk of House

Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate June 1, 2007

President of Senate