

House Joint Memorial 13

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

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges President of United States, United States Congress and United States Trade Representative to negotiate and ratify free trade agreement with Taiwan.

JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 To the President of the United States, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United
3 States of America, in Congress assembled, and the United States Trade Representative, Amba-
4 sador Susan Schwab:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 Whereas, despite Taiwan's importance to the United States as an ally and as the United States'
27 eighth-largest trading partner, the percentage of Taiwan's international trade conducted with the
28 United States has declined sharply, from just under half of Taiwan's trade activity in 1984 to about
29 20 percent of Taiwan's trade activity in recent years, a trend that may continue downward in future
30 years; and

31 Whereas remaining trade barriers between the United States and Taiwan are a drag on growth

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 and prosperity for both nations; now, therefore,

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

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

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

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