

Senate Resolution 936

By: Senators Beach of the 21st, Gooch of the 51st, Tillery of the 19th, Watson of the 1st and Walker III of the 20th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States are longstanding allies who both deeply cherish
3 the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law; and
- 4 WHEREAS, in the year of 2016, Taiwan held its sixth direct presidential election, and Tsai
5 Ing-wen was elected as the 14th President of Taiwan, becoming the first female president in
6 the country's history, and along with her Vice President Chen Chien-jen, she hopes to
7 continue to build the country's already rich tradition of economic vitality, cultural growth and
8 innovation, self-sufficiency in national defense and protecting Taiwan's democracy; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Taiwan adopted a "New Southbound Policy" in 2016 to promote Taiwan's
10 economic, technological, and cultural connections with Southeast Asia, South Asia,
11 Australia, and New Zealand, serving the best interests of the Asia-Pacific region in the
12 continuation of stability and growth; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Taiwan and mainland China have signed more than 20 agreements in the past
14 decade. U.S. businesses can collaborate with innovative Taiwanese companies in Taiwan's
15 comprehensive protection of intellectual property rights, and then use Taiwan as a
16 springboard for entering mainland China and other key Asian markets; and
- 17 WHEREAS, since 1984, the State of Georgia and Taiwan have enjoyed long, cordial, and
18 mutually beneficial sister-state relations, a friendship that continues to strengthen with each
19 passing year; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' ninth-largest trading partner, and the United States
21 is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner; and

22 WHEREAS, the designation of Taiwan into the United States' Visa Waiver Program is a
23 significant step to draw travelers from Taiwan choosing the United States as their destination
24 for trade, investment, and sightseeing; and

25 WHEREAS, by working together with Taiwan, Georgia welcomes all opportunities for an
26 even closer economic partnership, such as the signing of a United States-Taiwan Bilateral
27 Investment Agreement and Bilateral Trade Agreement, in order to enhance the special
28 sister-state bond between Georgia and Taiwan and to encourage further cultural, educational,
29 and business exchanges between the citizens of both nations; and

30 WHEREAS, Taiwan is an active member in the international community with a long history
31 of commitment to international health and humanitarian aid as well as environmental
32 protection; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding relationship between
34 these extraordinary sister-states be appropriately recognized.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
36 commend and support the democratization efforts of Taiwan and the nation's meaningful
37 participation in the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation
38 Organization, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as other
39 international organizations, and extend their most sincere best wishes for continued
40 cooperation and success.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mr. Vincent
43 Jing-Yen Liu, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.