

Senate Resolution 148

By: Senators Rhett of the 33rd, Brass of the 6th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Esteves of the 35th, James of the 28th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Taiwan for its relations with the United States and the State
2 of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States of America are long-standing allies who both
4 deeply cherish the common values of democracy, peace, and prosperity; and

5 WHEREAS, Taiwan continues to pursue integrated diplomacy and serve the best interests
6 of the Indo-Pacific region by deepening ties with other like-minded nations, safeguarding
7 regional security, and utilizing Taiwan's technological and economic success to promote
8 partnerships on mutual benefits; and

9 WHEREAS, China repeatedly exerts economic coercion, stages military drills directed
10 toward Taiwan, and distorts United Nations Resolution 2758 (XXVI) excluding Taiwan's
11 participation from international organizations, which results in global challenges to
12 rules-based international order and aggressive authoritarian expansionism; and

13 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the United States' eighth-largest trading partner, and the United States
14 is Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, with an estimated \$128 billion worth of trade;
15 Taiwan was Georgia's 15th largest import and 17th largest export market in 2023; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan's first agreement entered into force under the
17 "US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade," which includes commitments on
18 anti-corruption, good regulatory practices, customs administration and trade facilitation, and
19 small- and medium-sized enterprises; and

20 WHEREAS, the Taiwanese government donated \$200,000 for Hurricane Helene relief to
21 Georgia, and Taiwan's National Day was joyously celebrated at the Georgia Aquarium last
22 October with more than 250 distinguished guests, including government officials,
23 entrepreneurs, and leaders from the Taiwanese community; this event emphasized the
24 celebration of the Taiwan Relations Act's 45th anniversary as well as symbolized the strong
25 connection between Taiwan and Georgia.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 support constant talks under the "US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade" and a
28 "US-Taiwan Avoid Double Taxation Agreement," as Taiwanese companies are looking for
29 a diverse and free market investment in the United States, as well as encourage the State of
30 Georgia to establish a trade office in Taiwan as 23 other states and Guam have done;
31 organize a trade delegation to Taiwan to attract more investments; and encourage city
32 governments to participate in the annual "Smart City" forum in Taiwan.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that with the celebration of Taiwan's democracy and the
34 reaffirmation of the United States' commitment to Taiwan, the members of this body support
35 the Taiwan Caucus as a means to explore more collaborative opportunities with Taiwan as
36 well as support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations and
37 economic cooperations such as WHO, UNFCCC, ICAO, INTERPOL, CPTPP, and IPEF.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body support the signing of an
39 education cooperation MOU with Taiwan to facilitate more exchanges of scholars, teachers,
40 and students as well as the use of the Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language as a Chinese
41 proficiency assessment tool for the Georgia State Seal of Biliteracy and encourage Georgians
42 to take part in Taiwanese American Heritage Week in May and other activities and
43 experiences that promote Taiwan's cultures, tourism, and delicacies such as Boba tea.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
45 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Governor Brian
46 Kemp, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, the Georgia Congressional Delegation, and
47 Mr. Elliot Wang, Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta.