



Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, and to support strengthening and expanding ties between the District of Columbia and Taiwan.

WHEREAS, the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the United States have enjoyed longstanding partnership and share the common values of freedom, democracy and human rights;

WHEREAS, the Taiwan Relations Act ("TRA") was signed into law on April 10, 1979, codifying the historically close relations with Taiwan that had existed prior to January 1st, 1979, and serves as the foundation to preserve and promote continued bilateral bonds;

WHEREAS, in 1982, President Ronald Reagan further clarified the importance and resilience of the US-Taiwan relationship with the issuance of the Six Assurances, which together with the TRA are the cornerstones of US policy with respect to Taiwan;

WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan have forged ever closer economic and security relations over the last four decades based on their shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law and free market principles; with United States now Taiwan's second-largest trading partner and second-largest destination of Taiwan outward investment; and with Taiwan the 11th largest trading partner of the United States and a key destination for United States agricultural exports;

WHEREAS, in the 2017-18 academic year, 22,454 students from Taiwan studied in the U.S., making Taiwan the seventh-leading place of origin for students coming to the U.S. and contributed more than 824 million to the U.S. economy, through their spending on tuition, accommodation and living expenses;

WHEREAS, in 2019, Taiwan ranked as second freest country in Asia by Freedom House, and ranked 10th among 180 world economies in terms of economic freedom by the Heritage Foundation, demonstrating the strength and vitality of its democratic system and showcasing Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in the world;

38 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been proven to be a very valuable contributor in a broad  
39 range of global issues and is necessary to be granted access to meaningfully participate  
40 in various international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO),  
41 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), United Nation Framework  
42 Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and International Criminal Police  
43 Organization (INTERPOL);

44 WHEREAS, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United  
45 States (TECRO), led by Representative Stanley Kao with support from Deputy  
46 Representative Christine Hsueh and Deputy Representative Louis Huang, is the Republic  
47 of China's principal representative office in the United States;

48 WHEREAS, TECRO in the United States is responsible for maintaining and  
49 developing bilateral relations between Taiwan and the United States, and oversees 11  
50 offices known as Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices, or TECOs, in Atlanta, Boston,  
51 Chicago, Denver, Honolulu, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, San Francisco, and  
52 Seattle; and

53 WHEREAS, April 19, 2019 will mark the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations  
54 Act, which helps maintain peace, security and stability in Asia and promotes the foreign  
55 policy of the United States.

56 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
57 resolution may be cited as the "Taiwan Relations Act 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremonial  
58 Recognition Resolution of 2019".

59 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia commemorates the 40th  
60 Anniversary of The Taiwan Relations Act and supports strengthening and expanding ties  
61 between the District of Columbia and Taiwan.

62 Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of  
63 publication in the District of Columbia Register.