Resolution

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 72 By: Bingman

A Resolution congratulating President Tsai Ing-Wen for her inauguration on May 20th, 2016; encouraging closer economic relationships between Taiwan and the United States; celebrating the 36th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Oklahoma and Taiwan; commending Mr. Louis M. Huang for his work to enhance cooperation between Taiwan and Oklahoma; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan engage in robust bilateral trade. Taiwan is the ninth largest U.S. trading partner, the largest per capita importer of U.S. agricultural products and Oklahoma's ninth largest trading partner in Asia. The transportation, computer and electronics industries, as well as many other sectors important to the Oklahoma economy, are poised to benefit from an economic partnership with Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, agribusiness continues to be one of the leading industries in Oklahoma, and Taiwan is a leading importer of U.S. agricultural goods, dispatching agricultural procurement missions to the U.S. to sign multi-billion dollar supply deals every two years; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan remains a beacon of democracy and the only full-fledged democracy in the Chinese-speaking world; and a general election was held in Taiwan on January 16, 2016, in which Dr. Tsai Ing-Wen, the chairwoman of the Democratic Progressive Party, was elected as the first female President and inaugurated on May 20, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the United States and the State of Oklahoma will benefit from closer economic relationships with Taiwan by the negotiation of a free-trade agreement (FTA) and a bilateral investment agreement (BIA) and by the U.S. support of Taiwan's membership in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP); and

WHEREAS, the Business Roundtable's study shows that 54 percent of Oklahoma goods exported to the world went to America's FTA partners in 2015; international trade supported more than 401,000 of Oklahoma's jobs in 2014; and an estimated 160,000 of those jobs depended on trade with the 11 other countries that are party to the TPP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate presents heartfelt congratulations to President Tsai Ing-Wen for her inauguration on May 20, 2016.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages closer economic relationships between Taiwan and the United States by negotiating an FTA and a BIA between Taiwan and the United States and supports Taiwan's membership in the TPP.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate celebrates the 36th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and Oklahoma and the 35th anniversary of the sister-city relationship between Taipei and Oklahoma City.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate commends Mr. Louis M. Huang, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, for his work to enhance cooperation between Taiwan and Oklahoma.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Taiwan President Tsai Ing-Wen and to Mr. Louis M. Huang, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, Texas.

Adopted by the Senate the 19th day of May, 2016.

Eddie Fields
Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this 19th day of May, 20 16, at 1:42 o'clock P. M.

By: Chris Benge