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State of Misconsin 2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

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2017 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 105

February 15, 2018 - Introduced by Senators Marklein and Moulton, cosponsored by Representatives Kulp, Tranel, Sinicki, Rohrkaste, Ballweg, Thiesfeldt, E. Brooks, VanderMeer, Kerkman, Krug, Steffen, Tusler, Spiros and Bernier. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** supporting Taiwan's signing of the Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) 2 with the United States and reaffirming support for increasing Taiwan's 3 international profile and for strengthening and expanding sister-state ties between Wisconsin and Taiwan. 4 5 Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is proud of the sister-state relationship it has 6 enjoyed with the Republic of China (Taiwan) since 1986, which is marked by strong 7 bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, and tourism; and 8 Whereas, Taiwan shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights, 9 the rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States and the state of 10 Wisconsin; and 11 Whereas, the United States ranks as Taiwan's second-largest trading partner, 12 Taiwan ranks as the tenth-largest trading partner of the United States, and 13 bilateral trade reached \$65.3 billion in 2016; and 14 Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin have enjoyed a long and mutually

beneficial relationship with the prospect of future growth, and Taiwan was

Wisconsin's eighth-largest export market in 2016, with \$185 million worth of Wisconsin goods exported to Taiwan; and

Whereas, negotiations for a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) between Taiwan and the United States are an important step toward further strengthening bilateral trade between our countries, thereby increasing Wisconsin's exports to Taiwan and creating bilateral investment, technical collaboration, and trade facilitation measures; and

Whereas, Taiwan has undertaken a policy of "steadfast diplomacy" in its international relations and is capable of and willing to fulfill its responsibilities and collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aids, disease control, and so forth; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature reaffirms its commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the state of Wisconsin; and, be it further

Resolved, That Wisconsin endorses Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of the BTA with the United States; and, be it further

Resolved, That Wisconsin continues to support Taiwan's appropriate participation in international organizations that impact the health, safety, and well-being of the people of Taiwan and supports Taiwan's aspiration to make more contributions in international societies; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk of the senate is hereby directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the members of the Wisconsin Congressional delegation and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago, Illinois.