



Midwestern Legislative Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

77th Annual Meeting

of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of

The Council of State Governments

July 9 – 12, 2023

Resolution Endorsing the Continued Support of the Relationship and Shared Interests between the Midwestern Legislative Conference and Taiwan

- WHEREAS,** Taiwan is a vibrant democracy that has strong economic, cultural and historical ties with the United States and shares the same values of freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, peace, and prosperity with the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States ranks as Taiwan's second largest trading partner; Taiwan is the eighth largest trading partner of the United States, and bilateral goods and services trade reached \$135.5 billion in 2022; and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan serves as an indispensable player in the global supply chain, supports the United States' "Friend-Shoring" initiative aiming to build resilient supply chains and revitalize American manufacturing while safeguarding its security interest; and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan and the United States underwent the first round negotiation of the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade from January 14-17, 2023, to develop concrete ways to deepen the economic and trade relationship, and advance mutual trade priorities based on shared values, which would in turn contribute to promoting innovation and inclusive economic growth between Taiwan and the United States including the 11 US Midwestern states which make up the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC); and
- WHEREAS,** Taiwan has not been included yet, is capable of contributing to the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) and Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) to foster a more free and interconnected trade environment in the Indo-Pacific region; and
- WHEREAS,** The United States Congress passed the landmark Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) in 1979 to sustain a close bilateral relationship between the United States and Taiwan, as well as to advance mutual security and commercial interests, the TRA and the Six Assurances have served as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations and have helped to preserve peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait; and

Adopted this 12th day of July, 2023 at the 77th MLC Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan

- WHEREAS,** negotiations for the U.S.-Taiwan 21st Century Trade Initiative, Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), and the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA) between Taiwan and the United States are an important step toward further strengthening bilateral trade, thereby increasing Midwestern states' exports to Taiwan and creating bilateral investment and technical collaboration through trade facilitation measures; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. and Taiwan have reaffirmed their commitment to deepening cooperation on international education with the U.S. Taiwan Educational Initiative, particularly in the area of English and Mandarin Chinese language education; 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 to collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aid, disease control and similar challenges; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that the MLC reiterates its support for a closer economic and trade partnership between the United States and Taiwan, and commends and supports Taiwan's mature and vital democracy; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the MLC endorses Taiwan's efforts to secure the signing of the U.S.-Taiwan 21st Century Trade Initiative, a Bilateral Trade Agreement, the Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement (ADTA) with the United States and the admission of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF); and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the MLC continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which impact the health, safety and well-being of its people, and supports its aspiration to make meaningful contributions in international organizations; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state and federal officials.

Adopted this 12th day of July, 2023 at the 77th MLC Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan