

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

HCR 1026

4  
5 By: Representative D. Johnson  
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## 8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS CLOSE ECONOMIC AND  
10 BUSINESS TIES WITH THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND  
11 CALLING FOR NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A FREE TRADE  
12 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN.  
13

### 14 **Subtitle**

15 COMMENDING TAIWAN FOR ITS CLOSE ECONOMIC  
16 AND BUSINESS TIES WITH THE STATE OF  
17 ARKANSAS AND CALLING FOR NEGOTIATIONS  
18 TOWARD A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
19 THE UNITED STATES AND TAIWAN.  
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21

22 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas has a strong and vibrant economic  
23 relationship with Taiwan; and in 2003, Arkansas exported more than seventy-  
24 eight million dollars (\$78,000,000) worth of goods to Taiwan including  
25 chemicals, food and related products, animal products, aluminum, petroleum  
26 products, paper products, computer products, electronic products,  
27 agricultural products, wood products, electrical components, and machinery;  
28 and  
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30 WHEREAS, according to Arkansas official statistics for 2003, Arkansas'  
31 exports grew by thirty-seven percent (37%) compared to 2002, placing Arkansas  
32 with the third largest percentage of increase of any state in the nation for  
33 2003 for trade with Taiwan; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, in 2003, the two-way trade between the United States and  
36 Taiwan reached more than forty-nine billion dollars (\$49,000,000,000); the



1 United States became the second largest exporter to Taiwan; and Taiwan became  
2 the sixth most important destination of United States agriculture exports;  
3 and  
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5 WHEREAS, Taiwan's private business investments in Arkansas, mainly in  
6 the petrochemical industry, have assisted in creating numerous job  
7 opportunities in Arkansas; and  
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9 WHEREAS, Taiwan has begun to send several important and varied cultural  
10 performing groups to Arkansas, affording Arkansans the opportunity to have  
11 interaction with these groups, enjoy the entertainment, and broaden their  
12 cultural horizons; and  
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14 WHEREAS, in the future, Arkansas will have the opportunity to send  
15 youth to Taiwan to participate in cultural, educational, and economic  
16 exchange programs with the possibility of rejuvenating the commercial,  
17 investment, and tourism opportunities between Arkansas and Taiwan; and  
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19 WHEREAS, in 2002, the United States International Trade Commission  
20 concluded that a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan  
21 would benefit United States farmers, manufacturers, and the economy as a  
22 whole; and the United States Chamber of Commerce agreed that it is important  
23 to recognize Taiwan's vibrant economy and that the United States has an  
24 interest in a free trade agreement with Taiwan; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, in 2003, more than seventy (70) members of the United States  
27 Congress, including Representatives Marion Berry and Mike Ross, supported  
28 HCR98 in the 108th Congress; and  
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30 WHEREAS, negotiations of a free trade agreement between the United  
31 States and Taiwan should help to preserve and enhance the Arkansas share of  
32 Taiwan's market, and concurrently this would increase exports of Arkansas  
33 agriculture directly and indirectly to other markets throughout Asia; and a  
34 free trade agreement would combine the powerful strengths of the United  
35 States' innovation and market prowess with Taiwan's famed know-how and  
36 unparalleled market flexibility; and

1  
2 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives commends Taiwan for its close  
3 economic and business ties with the State of Arkansas, encourages the United  
4 States to increase trade opportunities with Taiwan, and calls for  
5 negotiations toward a free trade agreement between the United States and  
6 Taiwan,

7  
8 NOW THEREFORE,

9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL  
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

11  
12 THAT the House of Representatives commends Taiwan for its close  
13 economic and business ties with the State of Arkansas, encourages the United  
14 States to increase trade opportunities with Taiwan, and calls for  
15 negotiations toward a free trade agreement between the United States and  
16 Taiwan.

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an appropriate copy of this resolution  
19 shall be provided to United States Trade Representative Robert B. Zoelick,  
20 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20508; President and CEO of United  
21 States Chamber of Commerce Thomas J. Donahue, 1615 H Street, NW, Washington,  
22 D.C. 20062; and Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Trade  
23 Office Kenneth Liao, 11 Greenway Plaza, Suite 2006, Houston, Texas 77046, by  
24 the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.