

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023

HR 1067

4  
5 By: Representative McAlindon  
6

7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO URGE ARKANSAS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO  
9 RELOCATE CHINESE-LANGUAGE PROGRAMS FROM MAINLAND  
10 CHINA TO TAIWAN.  
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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO URGE ARKANSAS INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
15 EDUCATION TO RELOCATE CHINESE-LANGUAGE  
16 PROGRAMS FROM MAINLAND CHINA TO TAIWAN.  
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18 WHEREAS, students benefit enormously from overseas educational programs  
19 that promote cultural and language learning and these benefits are typically  
20 realized by the students' home countries; and  
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22 WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China (PRC) is an American top-three  
23 trading partner and is a global economic and strategic power; and  
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25 WHEREAS, English-language education is compulsory for students in the  
26 PRC while comparatively few United States students study Chinese languages  
27 either domestically or overseas; and  
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29 WHEREAS, many United States institutions of higher education have  
30 foreign language and culture programs in the PRC; and  
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32 WHEREAS, the number of United States students studying Chinese  
33 languages in China has declined steadily since 2011; and  
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35 WHEREAS, Taiwan has developed the educational infrastructure to  
36 accommodate and enlarge foreign exchange programs, including the Ministry of



1 Education's (MOE) establishment of the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship in 2005  
2 and the Taiwan Scholarship Program in 2004, to encourage foreign students to  
3 study Mandarin or pursue their Chinese language degree studies; and  
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5 WHEREAS, Taiwanese universities are rising in the QS World University  
6 Rankings, an annual publication of university rankings by Quacquarelli  
7 Symonds; and  
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9 WHEREAS, standard Mandarin has been designated by the United States  
10 Government as a critical-need language to maintain United States national  
11 security, making it more important now than ever for Americans to study  
12 Mandarin; and  
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14 WHEREAS, standard Mandarin is an official language of both the PRC and  
15 Taiwan; and  
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17 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan launched the Taiwan-United States  
18 Education Initiative in December 2020 in order to expand access to Mandarin  
19 and English language instruction between our two democracies and to highlight  
20 Taiwan's potential to provide Mandarin language instruction to American  
21 students and students around the world; and  
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23 WHEREAS, in accordance with the Taiwan-United States Education  
24 Initiative, Taiwan's Overseas Community Affairs Council has already opened  
25 Taiwan Centers for Mandarin Learning across the United States to provide  
26 Chinese language courses for American adults; and  
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28 WHEREAS, Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, signed a  
29 Memorandum of Understanding with National Taiwan University (NTU), which will  
30 enable Northwestern University undergraduates to travel to NTU for language  
31 instruction in accordance with the Taiwan-United States Education Initiative;  
32 and  
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34 WHEREAS, universities in the United States have begun to identify  
35 operational challenges and quality concerns with language programs in the  
36 PRC, including lack of proper facilities and the rise of unfriendly sentiment

1 toward American institutions; and

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3 WHEREAS, Harvard University decided in October 2021 to relocate their  
4 highly-regarded Chinese language program from Beijing Language and Culture  
5 University in Beijing, China, to National Taiwan University in Taipei,  
6 Taiwan, in part due to what university officials described as “a perceived  
7 lack of friendliness” on the part of their counterparts at the Beijing  
8 institution; and

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10 WHEREAS, Taiwan’s economic and strategic partnership with the United  
11 States is strengthening in contrast to the increasing strains in United  
12 States-China relations; and

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14 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a likeminded, liberal democracy that adheres to free  
15 market principles and is among America’s most important economic and  
16 strategic partners in the Asia-Pacific,

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18 NOW THEREFORE,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS,

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22 THAT the House of Representatives of the State of Arkansas encourages  
23 institutions of higher education to relocate Chinese language and cultural  
24 programs from the PRC to Taiwan to advance United States national security  
25 interests, strengthen ties between our two democracies, and promote a  
26 positive learning environment to enhance comprehensive Mandarin language  
27 education for American students.