

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 138

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3 (By Delegates Duke, Anderson, Andes, Ashley, Azinger, Border, D.

4 Campbell, Carmichael, Cowles, Doyle, Ellem, Ellington, Evans,

5 Gearheart, Hall, Hamilton, Hartman, Iaquina, Ireland, Kominar,

6 Lane, Lawrence, Longstreth, Mahan, Marshall, Michael, C. Miller,

7 J. Miller, Nelson, Pasdon, Paxton, Perdue, Perry, R. Phillips,

8 Poore, Romine, Rowan, Savilla, Shaver, Sigler, Snuffer, Staggers,

9 Storch, Stowers, Sumner, Varner and Walters)

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13 Reaffirming the sister-state relationship between the State of West

14 Virginia and Taiwan Province of the Republic of China and

15 affirming Support of Meaningful Participation by the

16 Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) as an observer in

17 the international Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the

18 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

19 (UNFCCC).

20 WHEREAS, August 4, 2011, will mark the thirty-first anniversary

21 of a sister state relationship between West Virginia and Taiwan;

22 this year marks the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of

23 the Republic of China (Taiwan), a truly significant milestone; and

24 WHEREAS, For the past thirty-one years, the sister state

25 relationship with Taiwan has been strengthened through the efforts

1 of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO)
2 resulting in better mutual understanding; and

3 WHEREAS, The Republic of China (Taiwan), with a population of
4 twenty-three million, has endeavored to improve cross-Strait
5 relations since President Ma Ying-Jeou came to power in 2008, and
6 it is encouraging that five rounds of talks have been held and
7 fifteen agreements have been signed between Taiwan and mainland
8 China since then; and

9 WHEREAS, The cross-Strait Economic Cooperation Framework
10 Agreement (ECFA), signed on June 29, 2010, can serve as an
11 effective platform for cross-Strait interactions and contribute to
12 normalization of trade and economic relations between Taiwan and
13 mainland China; and

14 WHEREAS, The UN's World Health Organization (WHO) invited
15 Taiwan to attend the World Health Assembly in 2009 and 2010 as an
16 observer, setting precedents for Taiwan's meaningful participation
17 in the UN's specialized agencies; and

18 WHEREAS, Taiwan's absence from international organizations
19 dealing with climate change, such as the United Nations Framework
20 Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), has impeded Taiwan's ability
21 to respond to natural disasters, such as Typhoon Morakot, that
22 struck Taiwan in the Summer of 2009; and

23 WHEREAS, The Taoyuan International Airport is a key air
24 transport hub in the Asia-Pacific region, ranked the world's
25 fifteenth largest by cargo volume in 2008, and three hundred sixty-

1 five thousand Americans traveled to Taiwan for business and leisure
2 during 2009, consolidating aviation safety and regulation in Taiwan
3 also a priority for Americans' safety and best interests; and

4 WHEREAS, Given Taiwan's prominent role in regional air control
5 and transport services, such as meaningful participation in the
6 International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) it would be
7 beneficial for Taiwan to safeguard the traveling of passengers from
8 home and abroad; therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Legislature of the State of West Virginia:*

10 That it reaffirms the sister-state relationship of the State
11 of West Virginia and Taiwan and affirms its support for the
12 participation of Taiwan in the United Nations Framework Convention
13 on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Civil Aviation
14 Organization (ICAO) to increase Taiwan's contribution to the global
15 community; and be it

16 *Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be sent to
17 the President of the United States, the President of the United
18 States Senate, and the Speaker of the United States House of
19 Representatives.