

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 440

By Hill M

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the
Taiwan Relations Act.

WHEREAS, signed into law on April 10, 1979, the Taiwan Relations Act affirms that the preservation and enhancement of the human rights of the people on Taiwan are objectives of the United States; and

WHEREAS, through passage of the Taiwan Relations Act, the United States Congress gave six assurances:

(1) To preserve and promote extensive, close, and friendly commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan, as well as the people on the China mainland and all other peoples of the Western Pacific area;

(2) To declare that peace and stability in the area are in the political, security, and economic interests of the United States and are matters of international concern;

(3) To make clear that the United States' decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means;

(4) To consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;

(5) To provide Taiwan with arms of a defensive character; and

(6) To maintain the capacity of the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people on Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, for forty years, the Taiwan Relations Act has been a source of clarity and consistency for U.S. policy in balancing relations with Taiwan and the People's Republic of China (PRC); and

WHEREAS, the Taiwan Relations Act safeguards against any administration sacrificing U.S. interests in Taiwan in pursuit of improved relations with PRC and deters the threat of aggression in the region by PRC; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the oldest and most stable democracies in Southeast Asia and has been a multiparty democracy since 1987; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is the most populous state and the largest economy that is not a member of the United Nations; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has a strong information technology industry, with Amazon, IBM, Microsoft, and Google having operations there; and

WHEREAS, there is a long-standing history of friendship, trade, and cultural relations between Taiwan and Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is Tennessee's seventh-largest export market in Asia, with more than \$265 million worth of products exported annually; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has invested more than \$220 million in Tennessee, with 272 jobs supported by these investments; and

WHEREAS, more than 3,000 jobs in Tennessee are supported by exports of goods and services to Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should join with our friends and allies in Taiwan in celebrating the continued importance of this landmark legislation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we commemorate and celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act being signed into law and extend our warmest salutations to the people of Taiwan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.