

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2019-4627, by Representatives Ryu and Thai

1 WHEREAS, The state of Washington shares a historical,
2 technological, cultural, and economic relationship with Taiwan and
3 the more than one hundred thirty-five thousand Taiwanese and Chinese
4 Americans from Taiwan living and working in Washington state, and we
5 cherish the common values of freedom and democracy; and

6 WHEREAS, With twelve Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices (TECO)
7 throughout the United States holding events on April 7, 2019, for
8 "Taiwan Day," TECO in Seattle and Taiwanese Americans will
9 participate in WALK MS (multiple sclerosis) activities to express
10 appreciation for and contribute to those in need; and

11 WHEREAS, Taiwan and the state of Washington are strategically
12 positioned along Pacific Rim trade routes, have enjoyed a long and
13 mutually beneficial relationship with the prospect of further growth,
14 Taiwan was Washington's sixth largest export destination in 2017 and
15 Taiwan is the seventh largest export destination for United States
16 agricultural goods, and Taiwan has traditionally ranked among the top
17 three importers of Washington wheat, with a total trading value of
18 \$2.5 billion in 2017; and

19 WHEREAS, Taiwan and Taiwanese Americans have maintained a strong
20 connection to historic traditions, maintained and championed the
21 virtues of honor and integrity with the state of Washington, and
22 fostered those qualities in local Washington communities, and will
23 celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month of May

1 in 2019 with all Washingtonians, inviting them to "Taiwanese American
2 Heritage Week" in May, Taiwanese Night Market on May 11th at the
3 University of Washington, a Glove Puppetry show at the Carco Theater
4 in Renton on May 15th, Taiwanese vendors and cuisines exhibition May
5 18th-19th, and Taste of Formosa on May 24th; and

6 WHEREAS, This year marks the fortieth anniversary of the
7 enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, which codified in law the
8 legal basis for continued commercial and cultural relations between
9 the United States and Taiwan, and thus the state of Washington and
10 Taiwan have both developed leading footprints in the nexus areas of
11 technology and manufacturing, and are strategically positioned to
12 help each other's efforts to maintain leadership in these vital areas
13 of future job growth; and

14 WHEREAS, The state of Washington welcomes opportunities for an
15 even closer economic partnership to increase trade and investment
16 through agreements between the United States and Taiwan and create
17 greater benefits for all citizens of Washington, and TECO in Seattle
18 and University of Washington will hold a roundtable discussion on the
19 past and future of U.S.-Taiwan relations in the fortieth year of the
20 TRA on April 30, 2019;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
22 reaffirm its commitment to the strong and deepening relationship
23 between the people of Taiwan, Taiwanese Americans, and the people of
24 the state of Washington as we celebrate the fortieth Anniversary of
25 the Taiwan Relations Act and the Asian American and Pacific Islander
26 Heritage Month.

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