

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 13—SENATORS RAGGIO, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O’CONNELL, O’DONNELL, PORTER, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

MARCH 5, 1999

Declared an Emergency Measure

SUMMARY—Urges President and Congress to support participation of Taiwan of Republic of China in World Health Organization. (BDR R-1665)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the President and the Congress of the United States to support the participation of Taiwan of the Republic of China in the World Health Organization.

- 1 WHEREAS, Good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world
- 2 and access to the highest standards of health information and services is
- 3 necessary to help guarantee this right; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Participation in international health programs is crucial to
- 5 world health as the potential for the spread of various infectious diseases
- 6 increases proportionately with the increase in world trade and travel; and
- 7 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization set forth in the first chapter
- 8 of its charter the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health
- 9 for all people; and
- 10 WHEREAS, In 1977, the World Health Organization established “Health
- 11 for all by the year 2000” as its overriding priority and reaffirmed that
- 12 commitment in 1995 with the initiation of its “Health for All” renewal
- 13 process; and
- 14 WHEREAS, This country’s population of 21 million is larger than three-
- 15 quarters of the member states already in the World Health Organization
- 16 and Taiwan shares the noble goals of the organization; and

1 WHEREAS, The achievements of Taiwan in the field of health are
2 substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia,
3 maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western
4 countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox
5 and the plague and the first country in the world to provide children with
6 free hepatitis B vaccinations; and

7 WHEREAS, Before its loss of membership in the World Health
8 Organization in 1972, Taiwan sent specialists to serve in other member
9 countries on countless health projects and its health experts held key
10 positions in the organization, all to the benefit of the entire Pacific region;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Presently, this remarkable country is not allowed to
13 participate in any forums and workshops organized by the World Health
14 Organization concerning the latest technologies in the diagnosis,
15 monitoring and control of diseases; and

16 WHEREAS, In recent years, the government and the expert scientists and
17 doctors in the field of medicine of Taiwan have expressed a willingness to
18 assist financially or technically in international aid and health activities
19 supported by the World Health Organization, but these offers have
20 ultimately been refused; and

21 WHEREAS, According to the constitution of the World Health
22 Organization, Taiwan does not fulfill the criteria for membership; and

23 WHEREAS, Because the World Health Organization does not allow
24 observers to participate in the activities of the organization and considering
25 all of the benefits that such participation would bring, it is in the best
26 interests of all persons in this World that Taiwan be admitted to the World
27 Health Organization; now, therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,
29 JOINTLY, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada Legislature
30 do hereby urge President Clinton and the Congress of the United States to
31 support all efforts made by Taiwan of the Republic of China to gain
32 meaningful participation in the World Health Organization; and be it
33 further

34 RESOLVED, That the policy of the United States should include the
35 pursuit of an initiative in the World Health Organization that would ensure
36 such participation; and be it further

37 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a
38 copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice
39 President of the United States as the presiding officer of the Senate, the
40 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of Health,
41 Education and Welfare, the World Health Organization, the Director
42 General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco and
43 each member of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage and
- 2 approval.

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