

Senate Joint Resolution No. 16—Committee on
Legislative Operations and Elections

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the President and
Congress to support a free trade agreement between the
Republic of China on Taiwan and the United States.

WHEREAS, It is our belief that it is this country's responsibility to promote the values of freedom and democracy, a commitment to open markets and the free exchange of goods and ideas both at home and abroad, and the Republic of China on Taiwan shares these values and has struggled throughout the past 50 years to create what is an open and thriving democracy; and

WHEREAS, Despite the fact that Taiwan is a member of the World Trade Organization, it has no formal trade agreement with the United States, yet Taiwan has emerged as the United States' eighth largest trading partner, the United States is Taiwan's largest trading partner and American businesses have benefited greatly from this dynamic trade relationship; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has emerged over the past two decades as one of the United States' most important allies in Asia and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has forged an open, market-based economy and a thriving democracy based on free elections and the freedom of dissent, and it is in the interest of the United States to encourage the development of both these institutions; and

WHEREAS, The United States has an obligation to its allies and to its own citizens to encourage economic growth, market opening and the destruction of trade barriers as a means of raising living standards across the board; and

WHEREAS, A free trade agreement with Taiwan would be a positive step toward accomplishing all of these goals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature hereby urge President George W. Bush and Congress to support a free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States as presiding officer of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the United States Secretary of State, the Director



General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco, the Executive Director of the Las Vegas Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce and the members of the Nevada Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

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