

Senate Joint Resolution No. 5—Committee on
Legislative Operations and Elections

FILE NUMBER.....

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

WHEREAS, In the first chapter of its charter, the World Health Organization set forth the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people, and participation in international health programs is crucial as the potential for the spread of infectious diseases increases proportionately with increases in world trade, travel and population; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's population of over 23 million is larger than three-fourths of the member countries who currently participate in the World Health Organization; and

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

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

WHEREAS, Taiwan has been campaigning for participation in the World Health Organization since 1999, but has been unable to establish direct access to and communicate with the World Health Organization regarding disease prevention and is restricted from attending the World Health Organization technical conference and activities and as a result, Taiwan can neither acquire the latest medical and health updates nor receive timely assistance when epidemics occur, as was the case with severe acute respiratory syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Being the world's eighteenth largest economy and the twentieth largest outbound investor, Taiwan possesses significant economic strength, is the ninth largest trading partner of the United States with over \$64 billion in two-way trade in 2007 and



has also shared a sisterhood relationship with the State of Nevada since 1985; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan hopes to share its development experiences with developing countries and is also willing to give back to the world through humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Admittance of Taiwan to the World Health Organization would bring tremendous benefits to all persons in this world; 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 Barack Obama and the Congress of the United States to continue to support all efforts made by the Republic of China on Taiwan to gain meaningful participation in the World Health Organization; 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, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Department of State, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Nevada Congressional Delegation, the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco and the Director-General of the World Health Organization; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

