

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. R. No. 516

Senator LaRose

Cosponsors: Senators Gentile, Hite, Obhof

A RESOLUTION

To reaffirm support for strengthening and expanding 1
sister-state ties between Ohio and Taiwan, to 2
commend Taiwan's democratic achievements, and to 3
congratulate Madam Tsai Ing-wen on becoming 4
Taiwan's first female president. 5

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, The Republic of China (Taiwan) shares the values 6
of freedom, democracy, human rights, rule of law, peace, and 7
prosperity with the United States and the State of Ohio; and 8

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio is proud of the sister-state 9
relationship it has enjoyed with Taiwan since 1985, marked by 10
strong bilateral trade, educational and cultural exchange, and 11
tourism; and 12

WHEREAS, The United States ranks as Taiwan's second largest 13
trading partner, Taiwan is the 9th largest trading partner of 14
the United States, and bilateral trade between the two nations 15
reached \$66.6 billion in 2015; and 16

WHEREAS, On January 16, 2016, Taiwan held its sixth direct 17
presidential election, demonstrating again the strength of its 18
democratic system and confirming that Taiwan is a beacon of 19
democracy in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond; and 20

WHEREAS, Taiwan is seeking to contribute to greater regional integration in the Asia-Pacific region and promote bilateral investment and trade relations with the United States; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the State of Ohio recognizes and supports Taiwan's mature and vital democracy, its continued efforts to participate significantly in international organizations which impact the health, safety, and well-being of its people; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the State of Ohio congratulates Madam Tsai Ing-wen of the Democratic Progress Party on winning the presidential election and becoming Taiwan's first female president; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate is hereby directed to transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the United States Secretary of State John F. Kerry, the members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago, Illinois.