

SENATE RESOLUTION

8612

By Senators Honeyford, Braun, Brown, Dhingra, Ericksen, King, Mullet, Muzzall, Rivers, Salomon, Schoesler, Wagoner, Warnick, and Wilson, J.

1 WHEREAS, The people of the State of Washington and the people of
2 Taiwan are bonded by their shared commitment to democracy, human
3 rights, the rule of law, and a free market economy; and

4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the United
5 States, with bilateral trade totaling \$85.5 billion in 2019; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2019, Washington State exported approximately \$1.8
7 billion worth of products to Taiwan, making Taiwan the 4th largest
8 export market for the state in Asia; and

9 WHEREAS, Taiwan is the 6th largest export destination for United
10 States agricultural goods, and has ranked among the top three
11 importers of Washington apples, beef, and wheat; and

12 WHEREAS, Taiwanese companies that invest in Washington State,
13 including WaferTech, Eva Air, Evergreen Marine, Yang Mine Marine
14 Transport, and Lightel Technologies, and others, have helped to
15 create more than 15,000 jobs in this state; and

16 WHEREAS, The United States Congress passed the landmark Taiwan
17 Relation Act in 1979 to sustain a close, bilateral relationship as
18 well as to advance mutual security and commercial interests between
19 the United States and Taiwan; and

20 WHEREAS, Taiwan has a strong economy and the people of Taiwan are
21 dedicated to democratic freedoms; and

1 WHEREAS, The United States government has expressed views similar
2 to those of the people of Taiwan before various international bodies
3 and organizations; and

4 WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the world's biggest suppliers of
5 medical-grade masks and one of the few places to have successfully
6 battled back COVID-19; and

7 WHEREAS, The people of Taiwan generously donated more than
8 2,000,000 medical face masks to the people of the United States in
9 the early days of the pandemic, including 100,000 masks for use by
10 medical personnel, first responders, and election staff workers,
11 which were delivered to the State of Washington on behalf of the
12 Taiwanese people and received by Washington Secretary of State Kim
13 Wyman on May 8th; and

14 WHEREAS, The people of Washington recognize the importance of a
15 strong and enduring partnership with the people of Taiwan;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
17 honor the historic trade partnership, the continued cooperative
18 relationship, and the enduring mutual appreciation and affection of
19 our peoples.

--- END ---