

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1003

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Supporting a Taiwan-United States free trade agreement.

WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan enjoy one of the most important economic and strategic international relationships, and promote a shared faith and respect for freedom, democracy, and free market principles; and

WHEREAS, trade exchange between the United States and Taiwan in 2007 equaled sixty billion dollars. Taiwan is the ninth largest trading partner of the United States, its ninth largest export market overall, and the sixth largest customer for United States agriculture products; and

WHEREAS, a Taiwan-United States free trade agreement would encourage greater innovations and manufacturing efficiencies by stimulating joint technological development, practical applications, new cooperative ventures, investment expansion, and business opportunities; and

WHEREAS, an operative Taiwan-United States free trade agreement will benefit South Dakota's nonagricultural leading industries, such as: food processing, industrial machinery, lumber and wood products, electronics goods, metal items, precision instruments, and transportation equipment industries. Their competitiveness will be significantly enhanced from tariff and other trade barrier reductions; and

WHEREAS, a Taiwan-United States free trade agreement will make South Dakota an ideal place for Taiwan's high-tech businesses to establish a working relationship and partnership in the areas such as automotive, electronics, biotechnology, communications, and optical industries with their respective global strategies; and

WHEREAS, the United States International Trade Commission recognizes the benefit of a Taiwan-United States free trade agreement to further boost trade between the two countries and serve the broader interests of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Eighty-Third Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature hereby supports the negotiation of a Taiwan-United States free trade agreement.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

February 6, 2008
February 12, 2008

Thomas J. Deadrick
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Dennis Dugaard
President of the Senate

Trudy Evenstad
Secretary of the Senate