

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The countries of Taiwan, the United States, and the City of Chicago share values of freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and prosperity; and,

WHEREAS, In 2025, Taiwan ranked as the United State's 5th largest merchandise trading partner, with total goods trade of approximately \$256.1 billion; and,

WHEREAS, Taiwan was the United States' 5th largest source of imports, totaling approximately \$201.4 billion in 2025, and 9th largest export market totaling approximately \$54.7 billion in 2025; and,

WHEREAS, American agricultural exports to Taiwan totaled approximately \$4.3 billion in 2025 and the State of Illinois accounts for \$306.7 million of the United State's agricultural exports to Taiwan in 2025; and,

WHEREAS, In 2025, the United States accounted for 30.9% of Taiwan's total exports, or roughly \$198.27 billion, making the United States Taiwan's largest export market in 2025; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America, a milestone reflecting the nation's enduring commitment to defending liberty and democracy in the free world; and,

WHEREAS, The year 2026 also marks the 30 year anniversary of Taiwan's leap to democracy having held their first election in 1996. A milestone for the country in its transition to a free and prosperous Republic; and,

WHEREAS, the United States maintains a strong diplomatic relationship with Taiwan through the Taiwan Relations Act, which provides the framework for continued economic, cultural, and security cooperation; and,

WHEREAS, Taiwan was designated by Congress in 2002 as a Major Non-NATO Ally, reflecting its role as a trusted economic and security partner, and continues to be a key strategic partner in the Indo-Pacific region, contributing to regional security; and,

WHEREAS, Continued stability in the Taiwan Strait is vital to the security of the United States and Taiwan; and,

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the City of Chicago to recognize and support strong international partnerships that reflect its commitment to democracy, economic opportunity, and cooperation among democratic countries; and,

WHEREAS, Taiwan is a critical partner of the United States and City of Chicago in technological innovation, particularly in advanced electronics and semiconductor production, contributing to the stability of the global supply chain and economic growth in both nations; and,

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States maintain strong and growing educational ties, including robust student exchange programs, institutional partnerships, and collaborative research partnerships. It is in the best interest of the schools of the City of Chicago to deepen its commitment to strengthening institutional ties between schools in both countries; and,

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States both stand to gain from cultural exchanges through tourism, it is in the City's best interest to encourage tourism from Taiwan and support Chicagoans visiting Taiwan; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, That we, the Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, affirm our support for the United States' enduring partnership with Taiwan, and recognize Taiwan as a valued democratic partner and ally in promoting freedom, security, and prosperity; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, The City of Chicago will work towards formalizing a Trade and Tourism Office for the country of Taiwan; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, The City of Chicago will work towards increasing opportunities for educational exchanges and partnerships between the schools and institutions of the City of Chicago and the country of Taiwan; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CHICAGO, The City Council will look to implement policies that build a conduit for 21st-century innovation and business conducted in partnership with the country of Taiwan.

Scott Waguespack
32

Raymond A. Lopez
Alderman, 15th Ward

12th
17