

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri maintains and values its relationship with the Republic of China (Taiwan); and

WHEREAS, April 10, 2014, will mark the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act, which encourages continued commercial and cultural relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan was the 10th largest import partner and the 21st largest export partner of the state of Missouri in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States resumed negotiation under the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement in March, 2013, after a five-year hiatus; and

WHEREAS, a Bilateral Investment Agreement gives investors in both economies greater assurance that the capital they are putting at risk in each other's market will be adequately protected; and

WHEREAS, the United States has already concluded, or is seeking to negotiate, bilateral investment agreements with nine of its top ten trading partners, and Taiwan is the sole exception; and

WHEREAS, opening negotiations for a BIA between the United States and Taiwan will provide more stability for strong two-way investment ties; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan hopes to work via regional economic bodies to further develop bilateral and multilateral trade with the United States and other nations in the Asia-Pacific region, seeking to join the United States-led Trans-Pacific Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the People's Republic of China (mainland) signed a landmark trade agreement, the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement in 2010. This trade agreement has opened up immense opportunities for Taiwan investors, including those who are from the state of Missouri and in mainland China, and continues to expand to provide additional benefits:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninetyseventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby support the resumption of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement talks between the United States and Taiwan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the United States Secretary of State, each member of the Missouri Congressional delegation, and the Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City.