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ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4—COMMITTEE ON  
ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

MARCH 7, 2003

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Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Urges President of United States and Congress to support free trade agreement between Republic of China on Taiwan and United States. (BDR R-1213)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

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ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Urging the President of the United States and Congress to support a free trade agreement between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the United States.

1 WHEREAS, It is our belief that it is the responsibility of the  
2 United States to promote the values of freedom, democracy, and a  
3 commitment to open markets and the free exchange of both goods  
4 and ideas both at home and abroad; and

5 WHEREAS, The Republic of China on Taiwan shares these  
6 values with the United States and has struggled throughout the past  
7 50 years to create what is today an open and thriving democracy;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The United States must continue to support the  
10 growth of democracy and ongoing market opening in Taiwan if this  
11 relationship is to evolve and reflect the changing nature of the global  
12 system in the 21st Century; and

13 WHEREAS, Despite the fact that Taiwan only recently became a  
14 member of the World Trade Organization and that it has no formal  
15 trade agreement with the United States, Taiwan has nevertheless  
16 emerged as the United States' eighth largest trading partner; and

17 WHEREAS, American businesses and workers have benefited  
18 greatly from this dynamic trade relationship, most recently in the  
19 computer and electronics sector; and



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1 WHEREAS, Taiwan is a gateway to other Pacific Rim markets  
2 for United States exports, helping to preserve peace and stability  
3 within the entire region; and

4 WHEREAS, United States agricultural products have been  
5 particularly underrepresented in the list of United States exports to  
6 the region despite the importance of the market for growers of corn,  
7 wheat and soybeans; and

8 WHEREAS, A free trade agreement would not only help  
9 Taiwan's economy dramatically expand its already growing  
10 entrepreneurial class, but it would also serve an important political  
11 function; and

12 WHEREAS, The United States needs to support partner countries  
13 that are lowering trade barriers; and

14 WHEREAS, Taiwan has emerged over the past two decades as  
15 one of the United States' most important allies in Asia and  
16 throughout the world; and

17 WHEREAS, In the interest of supporting, preserving and  
18 protecting the democratic fabric of the government of the Republic  
19 of China on Taiwan, it is made clear that the United States supports  
20 the withdrawal of missiles deployed as a threat against Taiwan by  
21 the People's Republic of China; and

22 WHEREAS, Taiwan has forged an open, market-based economy  
23 and a thriving democracy based on free elections and the freedom of  
24 dissent; and

25 WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the United States to encourage  
26 the development of both these institutions; and

27 WHEREAS, The United States has an obligation to its allies and  
28 to its own citizens to encourage economic growth, market opening,  
29 and the destruction of trade barriers as a means of raising living  
30 standards across the board; and

31 WHEREAS, A free trade agreement with Taiwan would be a  
32 positive step toward accomplishing all of these goals; and

33 WHEREAS, The United States should also support the entry of  
34 Taiwan into the World Health Organization, the United Nations and  
35 other relevant international organizations; now, therefore, be it

36 RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
37 NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the members of the Nevada Legislature  
38 hereby urge President George W. Bush and Congress to support a  
39 free trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan; and be  
40 it further

41 RESOLVED, That United States policy should include the pursuit  
42 of some initiative in the World Trade Organization that will give  
43 Taiwan meaningful participation in a manner that is consistent with  
44 the organization's requirements; and be it further



1       RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly prepare and  
2 transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the United  
3 States, the United States Secretary of State, the Secretary of Health,  
4 Education, and Welfare, the Speaker of the United States House of  
5 Representatives, the Vice President of the United States as presiding  
6 officer of the Senate, the Government of Taiwan, the World Trade  
7 Organization and the members of the Nevada Congressional  
8 Delegation; and be it further  
9       RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon  
10 passage.

