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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES.

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Commending Taiwan on the 30th anniversary of its first direct presidential election in 1996, and expressing support for Taiwan in the preservation of its democratic institutions.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WALKINSHAW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Commending Taiwan on the 30th anniversary of its first direct presidential election in 1996, and expressing support for Taiwan in the preservation of its democratic institutions.

Whereas Taiwan, which officially calls itself the Republic of China, began transitioning to a liberal democracy in the late 1980s, lifted martial law in 1987, and held its first direct legislative election in 1992;

Whereas, on March 23, 1996, the people of Taiwan held their first direct presidential election, marking a historic milestone in Taiwan's democratic development;

Whereas Taiwan has now held 8 presidential and multiple legislative and local elections since its democratic transition, all of which were free, fair, and representative of the will of the people of Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan has demonstrated the strength of its democratic system through multiple peaceful transfers of political power, which is a bedrock of a free, stable, and representative political system;

Whereas the democratic institutions of Taiwan codify the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, and religion into law, and the citizens of Taiwan have exercised these freedoms in practice to build a vibrant civil society, a strong journalistic and media sector, and an advanced business community;

Whereas Taiwan has continued to strengthen and safeguard its democracy in the face of growing military, economic, and political pressure from the People's Republic of China (PRC);

Whereas the people of Taiwan have shown resilience and steadfast commitment to democratic values despite persistent PRC coercion and intimidation;

Whereas Taiwan's democracy and respect for the rule of law contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.), the Three Joint Communiqués, and the Six Assurances remain fundamental elements of United States policy toward Taiwan; and

Whereas the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan continue to stand as partners against coercion,

and threats to regional peace and stability: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved,*

2   **SECTION 1. COMMEMORATION STATEMENT.**

3       The House of Representatives of the United States—

4           (1) commemorates the significance of Taiwan’s  
5       first direct presidential election, which was held on  
6       March 23, 1996;

7           (2) commends Taiwan for building and sus-  
8       taining a robust democratic system;

9           (3) regards Taiwan’s vibrant democracy as a  
10       great example for the free world and a key compo-  
11       nent of strong and enduring United States-Taiwan  
12       relations;

13          (4) is committed to supporting Taiwan’s self-  
14       defense and the liberty of its people; and

15          (5) remains committed to the United States  
16       policy toward Taiwan that has been established by  
17       the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8; 22  
18       U.S.C. 3301 et seq.), the Three Communiqués, and  
19       the Six Assurances towards Taiwan.

20   **SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

21       Nothing in this resolution may be construed as au-  
22       thorizing the use of military force.