

**Joint Resolution Expressing Friendship and Support for Taiwan**  
**2026 GENERAL SESSION**  
**STATE OF UTAH**

## **Chief Sponsor: Scott D. Sandall**

### House Sponsor:

## LONG TITLE

### **General Description:**

This resolution expresses support for the continued friendship between Utah and Taiwan.

## **Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- highlights the long-standing friendship between Utah and Taiwan;
- supports a continuation of the Utah and Taiwan friendship;
- supports deepening the religious, economic, educational, and cultural partnership between Utah and Taiwan; and
- encourages global organizations to admit Taiwan into their membership.

## **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

## Other Special Clauses:

None

*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah,*

WHEREAS, the state of Utah has developed a strong relationship with Taiwan based on shared values, including a commitment to religious freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and a free market economy;

WHEREAS, the relationship between Utah and Taiwan began in 1956, when the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which is headquartered in Utah, dispatched four missionaries to Taiwan as a friendly exchange between the Taiwanese people and the people of Utah;

WHEREAS, by 2024, more than 43,000 Latter-day Saint missionaries had served missions in Taiwan:

WHEREAS, in 1980, Utah and Taiwan established a formal sister-state relationship, deepening the cultural exchanges between Utah and Taiwan:

WHEREAS, today, approximately 2,400 foreign-born Taiwanese people live and work in Utah, lending their support to Utah communities;

31        WHEREAS, according to the Observatory of Economic Complexity, in 2025 Utah  
32        imported approximately \$1 billion in goods from Taiwan, more than any other country;

33        WHEREAS, Taiwan is the first country to enter into the Driver License Reciprocity  
34        Agreement with Utah;

35        WHEREAS, because of the Driver License Reciprocity Agreement, people with a driver  
36        license from Utah can now drive when visiting Taiwan and people with a driver license from  
37        Taiwan can drive when visiting Utah;

38        WHEREAS, the Driver License Reciprocity Agreement benefits both Utah and Taiwan,  
39        resulting in a stronger relationship, politically and economically, while increasing the ease of  
40        Taiwanese foreign citizens doing business in Utah;

41        WHEREAS, during the 2020 General Session, the Legislature passed a law incentivizing  
42        public universities to work with industry leaders in creating multi-disciplinary programs;

43        WHEREAS, these multi-disciplinary programs prepare the workforce for scientific  
44        discoveries and engineering innovations;

45        WHEREAS, Taiwan's participation in these multi-disciplinary programs mutually benefits  
46        the people of Utah and Taiwan;

47        WHEREAS, Taiwan's participation and contributions in international organizations and  
48        agreements, such as the bilateral trade agreement between the United States and Taiwan, the  
49        Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, the World Health Assembly, the  
50        International Civil Aviation Organization, and other organizations, greatly benefit the people  
51        of Utah and all Americans; and

52        WHEREAS, 2026 marks the 47th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, a foundation  
53        upon which the United States, and particularly Utah, has maintained and strengthened its  
54        economic and cultural ties with Taiwan;

55        NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah supports  
56        strengthening the existing friendship with Taiwan on religious, economic, and cultural grounds.

57        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature emphasizes the importance of the  
58        collaborative relationship among the United States, Utah, and Taiwan in the technology sector,  
59        higher education, and elsewhere.

60        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages Utah's federal  
61        congressional delegation to continue strengthening the United States' and Utah's relationships  
62        with Taiwan, and continue supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in international  
63        organizations and agreements.

64        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Utah federal

65 congressional delegation and the Taipei Economic Cultural Office in San Francisco.