

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION
OF TAIWAN IN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

1999 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Greg J. Curtis

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATURE URGING THE CLINTON
ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

WHEREAS, good health is a basic right for every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to help guarantee this right;

WHEREAS, direct and unobstructed participation in international health cooperation forms and programs is therefore crucial, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of various infectious diseases through increased trade and travel;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization set forth in the first chapter of its charter the objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people;

WHEREAS, in 1977 the World Health Organization established "Health for all by the year 2000" as its overriding priority and reaffirmed that central vision with the initiation of its "Health for All" renewal process in 1995;

WHEREAS, Taiwan's population of 21 million people is larger than that of 3/4 of the member states already in the World Health Organization and shares the noble goals of the organization;

WHEREAS, Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including one of the highest life expectancy levels in Asia, maternal and infant mortality rates comparable to those of western countries, the eradication of such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, and the plague, the first country in the world to provide children with free hepatitis B vaccinations;

WHEREAS, prior to 1972 and its loss of membership in the World Health Organization, Taiwan sent specialists to serve in other member countries on countless health projects and its health experts held key positions in the organization, all to the benefit of the entire Pacific region;

WHEREAS, Taiwan is not allowed to participate in any World Health Organization-organized forums and workshops concerning the latest technologies in the diagnosis, monitoring, and control of diseases;

WHEREAS, in recent years both the Taiwanese Government and individual Taiwanese experts have expressed a willingness to assist financially or technically in World Health Organization-supported international aid and health activities, but have ultimately been unable to render such assistance;

WHEREAS, according to the constitutions of the World Health Organization, Taiwan does not fulfill the criteria for membership;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization does allow observers to participate in the activities of the organization; and

WHEREAS, in light of all of the benefits that such participation could bring to the state of health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and globally:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah urge the Clinton Administration to support Taiwan and its 21 million people in obtaining appropriate and meaningful participation in the World Health Organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that United States policy should include the pursuit of some initiative in the World Health Organization which will give Taiwan meaningful participation in a manner that is consistent with such organization's requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the United States Secretary of State, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of Utah's congressional delegation, the Government of Taiwan, and the World Health Organization.