

**JOINT RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENTIAL  
SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN  
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

2009 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Michael G. Waddoups**

House Sponsor: Rebecca D. Lockhart

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature urges the Obama Administration to support the efforts of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to meaningfully participate in the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

► urges the Obama Administration to support the Republic of China (Taiwan) in obtaining appropriate and meaningful participation in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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

WHEREAS, the mission of the United Nations, as stated in the preamble to the United Nations Charter, is to "reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small";

WHEREAS, similarly, Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms . . . , without distinction of any kind . . .



28 no distinction shall be made on the basis of political, jurisdictional or international status of the  
29 country or territory to which a person belongs . . . .";

30 WHEREAS, the global issues addressed by the specialized agencies of the United  
31 Nations are closely connected to the well-being of all mankind;

32 WHEREAS, as Taiwan cannot attend the conferences, mechanisms, and activities of  
33 the specialized agencies, the welfare of its people, as well as the interests of all humankind,  
34 have been seriously jeopardized;

35 WHEREAS, Taiwan has been campaigning for participation in the World Health  
36 Organization (WHO) for years, but has been unable to establish direct access to and  
37 communication with the WHO regarding disease prevention;

38 WHEREAS, Taiwan is restricted from attending WHO technical conferences and  
39 activities and as a result Taiwan can neither acquire the latest medical and health updates nor  
40 receive timely assistance when epidemics occur, as was the case with the SARS outbreak;

41 WHEREAS, as early as May 2006, Taiwan announced its decision to comply  
42 voluntarily with the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) that went into effect June 15,  
43 2007;

44 WHEREAS, although Taiwan has repeatedly submitted updates to the WHO about  
45 various diseases, the WHO has not responded;

46 WHEREAS, this has been detrimental to the health rights of the 23 million people of  
47 Taiwan and foreigners residing in and traveling to Taiwan;

48 WHEREAS, it also creates a weakness in the global epidemic surveillance network  
49 which can harm the international community;

50 WHEREAS, being the world's 18th largest economy and the 20th largest outbound  
51 investor, Taiwan possesses significant economic strength;

52 WHEREAS, Taiwan hopes to share its development experience with many developing  
53 nations;

54 WHEREAS, Taiwan is also willing to give back to the world through humanitarian  
55 assistance and technical cooperation;

56 WHEREAS, the issues that the specialized agencies of the United Nations system  
57 handle tend to be functional and technical in nature; and

58 WHEREAS, allowing Taiwan's participation with these specialized agencies would be

59 helpful for the two sides of the Taiwan Strait to set aside differences and strengthen  
60 cooperation on issues of mutual concern, thereby gradually reducing friction and promoting  
61 stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region:

62       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
63 urges the Obama Administration to support Taiwan and its 23 million people in obtaining  
64 appropriate and meaningful participation in the specialized agencies of the United Nations  
65 system, including the World Health Organization.

66       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges that United States policy  
67 include the pursuit of an initiative in the specialized agencies of the United States system, such  
68 as the World Health Organization, which would give Taiwan meaningful participation in a  
69 manner that is consistent with the respective organization's requirements.

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

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**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-29-09 11:59 AM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**