

CHAPTER 219

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5013

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION concerning endorsement of the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

WHEREAS, Good health is important to every citizen of the world and access to the highest standards of health information and services is necessary to improve public health; and

WHEREAS, Direct and unobstructed participation in international health cooperation forums and programs is beneficial for all parts of the world, especially with today's greater potential for the cross-border spread of various infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's population of 23,500,000 people is larger than that of three-fourths of the member states already in the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's achievements in the field of health are substantial, including achieving one of the highest life-expectancy levels in Asia; lowering maternal and infant mortality rates to a level comparable to those of western countries; eradicating such infectious diseases as cholera, smallpox, the plague and polio; and providing hepatitis B vaccinations to children; and

WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its Taiwan counterpart agencies have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide range of public health issues; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, Taiwan has expressed a willingness to assist financially and technically in international aid and health activities supported by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization has allowed observers to participate in the activities of the organization, including the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1974 and the Order of Malta and the Holy See in the early 1950's; and

WHEREAS, The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, declared its intention to support Taiwan's participation in appropriate international organizations: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the Legislature endorses observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State is directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State of the United States, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by the House April 1, 2005.

Adopted by the Senate April 1, 2005.
