

1                   **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2                                   STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3                                   2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

4 HOUSE  
5 RESOLUTION 1051

By: Wright

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8                                   AS INTRODUCED

9                   A Resolution celebrating the 34th anniversary of the  
10                   Sister-State relationship between Oklahoma and  
11                   Taiwan; welcoming the Honorable Director General  
12                   Steve Hsia; and directing distribution.

13                   WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan share an important  
14                   relationship that is supported by our common values of freedom,  
15                   democracy, rule of law, and a commitment to a free market economy;  
16                   and

17                   WHEREAS, the State of Oklahoma and Taiwan initiated a Sister-  
18                   State Agreement on July 25, 1980, and have enjoyed the benefits of  
19                   the bonds of friendship and goodwill since that time, and now  
20                   prepare to celebrate their 34th anniversary in 2014; and

21                   WHEREAS, the United States ranks as Taiwan's third largest  
22                   trading partner and Taiwan is the tenth largest trading partner of  
23                   the United States. Bilateral trade in goods and services between  
24                   the United States and Taiwan reached \$63 billion in 2012; and

1       WHEREAS, negotiations for a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA)  
2 between Taiwan and the United States are an important step toward  
3 strengthening bilateral trade and paving the way for entering into a  
4 Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between our countries, thereby increasing  
5 Oklahoma's exports to Taiwan and creating greater bilateral  
6 investment and technical collaboration through tariff reduction and  
7 trade facilitation measures; and

8       WHEREAS, the United States and the eight other Trans-Pacific  
9 Partnership (TPP) countries announced the achievement of the broad  
10 outlines for a 21st century TPP agreement on November 12, 2011, and  
11 Taiwan has expressed a keen interest in participating so as to forge  
12 close links among economies, enhance competitiveness and benefit  
13 consumers; and

14       WHEREAS, Steve Hsia assumed his post as Director General of the  
15 Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Houston, Texas on March 27,  
16 2013, and he graciously visited the Oklahoma House of  
17 Representatives on April 10, 2013; and

18       WHEREAS, Taiwan is now a member of the United States Visa Waiver  
19 Program (effective November 1, 2012), reflecting the friendship,  
20 trust and cooperation shared between our two countries, and making  
21 travel between Taiwan and Oklahoma for business and tourism even  
22 more convenient.

23       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
24 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

1        THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives celebrates the 34th  
2 anniversary of the Sister-State relationship between Oklahoma and  
3 Taiwan.

4        THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives welcomes the  
5 Honorable Director General Steve Hsia to the Oklahoma House of  
6 Representatives.

7        THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Steve Hsia,  
8 Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in  
9 Houston, Texas.

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11 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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