

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 HOUSE

4 RESOLUTION 1016

By: Wright and Mulready

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7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution celebrating the 33rd anniversary of the
9 Sister-State relationship between Oklahoma and
10 Steve Hsia to the Oklahoma House of Representatives;
and directing distribution.

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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, have enjoyed the benefits of the
19 bonds of friendship and goodwill since that time, and now prepare to
20 celebrate their 33rd anniversary in 2013; 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 U.S. 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 U.S. and the eight other Trans-Pacific Partnership
9 (TPP) countries announced the achievement of the broad outlines for
10 a 21st century TPP agreement on November 12, 2011, and Taiwan has
11 expressed a keen interest in participating so as to forge close
12 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 on March 27, 2013,
16 and he graciously visited the Oklahoma House of Representatives; and

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

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

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1 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives celebrates the 33rd
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.

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11 54-1-7852 AM 04/09/13

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