



pg 1-20

State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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February 25, 2015

Testimony in support of Proposed House Resolution number 10, RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONNECTICUT-TAIWAN SISTER STATE RELATIONSHIP before the Government Administration and Elections Committee

Honorable Co-Chairmen, Senator Cassano, Representative Jutila, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee;

My name is State Representative Ernest Hewett and I am here before you to testify in favor of House Resolution number 10, Resolution Commemorating the Sixteenth Anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan Sister State Relationship. The purpose of this Resolution is to continue to show our State's appreciation on the 16th anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan Sister-State relationship and support a closer economic and trade partnership between the United States and Taiwan.

Sixteen years ago, geographically two very distant places began maintaining closer cultural, educational and economic relations. It is worth pointing out that in 2013 Connecticut had exported \$128.6 million worth of products to Taiwan, making the Republic of China one of the most important foreign markets for our state.

Here are some vital statistics showing that economic cooperation between our sister-states is growing:

- **6th** largest export market of Connecticut in Asia is Taiwan
- **\$128.6 Million** : Connecticut's exports to Taiwan in 2013
- **20.38%**: Growth in Connecticut exports to Taiwan from 2012 to 2013

The United States is an advocate for the Republic of China in joining many international organizations. Recognizing Taiwan's role in fostering better relations with the United States, it was included in the U.S. Visa Waiver Program on November 1, 2012. Such an important measure allows for developing even closer ties between Connecticut and Taiwan. It also provides Connecticut and Taiwan with improved opportunities to develop stronger economic and cultural relations.

I urge the Committee to favorably consider this Resolution proposal. This Resolution's copy, if enacted would be sent to the President Ma Ying-Jeou of the Republic of China through the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernest Hewett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "E" and a long, sweeping tail.

Ernest Hewett



Creating New Opportunities for Connecticut and Taiwan

Taiwan – Connecticut's 6th largest export market in Asia

Building on Strong Trade Ties

In 2013, Connecticut's exports to Taiwan reached **\$128.6 Million**, a **20.38%** increase from 2012. Taiwan is **Connecticut's 6th largest export market in Asia**, and **24th largest export market in the world**. Connecticut companies have substantial opportunities to expand their business and cooperation with Taiwan.

Growing a Key Market for Innovation

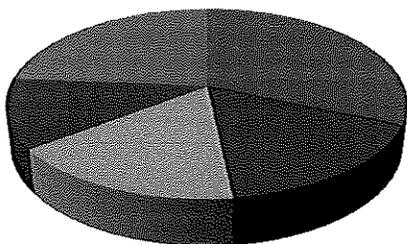
Like Connecticut, Taiwan is rapidly developing its biotech, medical devices and pharmaceutical industries. Enhancing trade ties with Taiwan will help Connecticut increase its biotech and other hi-tech exports to Taiwan and promote bilateral cooperation in innovation. Taiwan's hi-tech sectors can effectively integrate R&D operations and supply chains stretching from Massachusetts, via Taiwan, into Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

2013 Connecticut Exports to Taiwan

6th
Largest Asian export market of Connecticut is Taiwan

\$128.6 Million
Connecticut's exports to Taiwan in 2013

20.38%
Growth in Connecticut exports to Taiwan from 2012 to 2013



PRODUCT	VALUE (USD)	%
Chemicals	40,559,077	31.53%
Computer and Electronic Products	21,535,174	16.74%
Primary Metal MFG	21,093,924	16.40%
Machinery, Except Electrical	15,199,785	11.82%
Others	30,245,276	23.51%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration
*Product export % may exceed 100 due to round up.

Bringing New Trade and Investment to the Great State of Connecticut

The chemicals, computer and electronics, metal and machinery industries as well as many other sectors important to Connecticut's economy are poised to benefit from partnership with Taiwan. The majority of Taiwanese companies investing in Connecticut are SMEs in national defense, software, biotech, and services. Leading Taiwan businesses in the state include:

- **K. T. International:** Software product company
- **Phyto-Ceutica, Inc.:** Bio-tech company focusing on cancer research
- **Hontek Corp:** Specialty paint company
- **Sunfarm Corp:** Pharmaceutical company

Opening Up A Region of Opportunity

Taiwan serves as an ideal partner for U.S. business in Asia. Taiwan has complete industrial supply chains, high concentration of industrial clusters, and a consolidated manufacturer base. The Swiss-based International Institute for Management Development's (IMD) 2012 World Competitiveness Yearbook ranked Taiwan seventh in the world in terms of overall competitiveness and fifth in government efficiency. This is reflected in Taiwan's comprehensive protection of intellectual property rights, sound legal system, and modern infrastructure.

Furthermore, the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) signed between Taiwan and Mainland China in 2010 has opened up opportunities in Mainland China. Businesses can now collaborate with innovative Taiwanese companies and leverage ECFA to utilize Taiwan as a gateway to Mainland China and other fast-growing Asian markets.

Taiwan – your gateway to Mainland China and other fast-growing Asian markets

Forging a Stronger Partnership for Growth

Vibrant Connecticut-Taiwan relations hold great promise for both our companies and workers. We look forward to working together with you to forge a mutual partnership in prosperity.

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