

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 38

Introduced by Avery, 28; Mello, 5.

WHEREAS, civil aviation plays a pivotal role in promoting cultural exchange, business, trade, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the development of international civil aviation in a safe and orderly manner is the supreme cause of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); and

WHEREAS, with an excellent geographic location, Taiwan is a key aviation hub for regions in northeastern and southeastern Asia; and

WHEREAS, the Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR), bordering the FIR of Fukuoka, Manila, Hong Kong, and Shanghai, includes fourteen international airways and four domestic airways, providing services for more than one million flights per year; and

WHEREAS, each year, forty million travelers enter, leave, or pass through the Taipei FIR, making Taiwan a key part of air navigation in East Asia; and

WHEREAS, currently, more than fifty domestic and foreign airlines operate flights from Taiwan to one hundred ten cities in the world and the annual number of passengers on international flights is approximately thirty million; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the number of international passengers at Taiwan's largest airport - Taoyuan International Airport - ranked sixteenth

worldwide while international cargo ranked ninth, making Taiwan one of the busiest airspaces in the world; and

WHEREAS, without Taiwan's participation, the international flight plans, regulations, and procedures that the ICAO formulates will be incomplete and unsafe; and

WHEREAS, as an island in the Pacific Ocean, Taiwan is imperiled by rising sea levels and the ravages of extreme weather; and

WHEREAS, it is apparent that to overcome the challenges posed by climate change, there must be concerted effort and cooperation among the world citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's exclusion from meaningful participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been to the detriment of both the Taiwan people and the global community, as Taiwan not only has the means but also the incentive to make a meaningful contribution; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan's request to participate in the ICAO and the UNFCCC is fully in line with the United State Government's policy of supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in United Nations specialized agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature endorses Taiwan's participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization as an observer.

2. That the Legislature is supportive of all efforts to grant Taiwan official observer status at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and, as a collaborative partner of the United States on

a wide range of public issues, Taiwan should be afforded the opportunity to participate in global efforts aimed at reducing and preventing natural disasters.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the United States Secretary of State, the United States Secretary of Transportation, the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, each member of the Nebraska congressional delegation, and the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City.