

CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48(RLS)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/30/04

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE HOUSE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AND TOURISM

A RESOLUTION

1 **Sending a message of goodwill to President Chen Shui-bian and to the people of Taiwan,**
2 **and reaffirming the Alaska State Legislature's 2003 resolution urging the United States**
3 **Congress to support the granting of official Observer Status to the Republic of China on**
4 **Taiwan and to support negotiation of a free trade agreement with the Republic of China**
5 **on Taiwan.**

6 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7 **WHEREAS** President Chen Shui-bian has been reelected as President of the Republic
8 of China on Taiwan; and

9 **WHEREAS** Legislative Resolve No. 29, passed by the Alaska State Legislature in the
10 First Regular Session of the Twenty-Third Legislature, continues to reflect the view of the
11 legislature; and

12 **WHEREAS** the United States, including the State of Alaska, and Taiwan have long
13 been valued and close partners in trade and cultural exchanges; and

14 **WHEREAS** Taiwan is the eighth largest trading partner of the United States and is a
15 significant trading partner of the State of Alaska; and

1 **WHEREAS** Taiwan is showing signs of significant potential for increasing trade with
2 the United States and the State of Alaska as the world economy continues to recover from
3 recession; and

4 **WHEREAS** free trade among the peoples of the world is of vital importance to the
5 United States, including the citizens of Alaska, and to Taiwan; and

6 **WHEREAS** the importance of free trade is strongly acknowledged in Alaska, the
7 Municipality of Anchorage and the City of Taipei having signed a Partner Cities Agreement
8 to encourage trade and cultural exchange; and

9 **WHEREAS** the United States and Taiwan have, for decades, been willing signers of
10 mutual defense treaties; and

11 **WHEREAS** the health of the peoples of the world is of vital importance to the United
12 States, including the citizens of Alaska, and Taiwan; and

13 **WHEREAS** the people of the United States and Taiwan have generously contributed
14 to programs that benefit the health of the peoples of the world; and

15 **WHEREAS** it would be mutually beneficial to the people of the United States,
16 including Alaska, and the people of Taiwan to both assist and realize a continuation of
17 international efforts the goal of which is to expand and further develop health-related
18 knowledge; and

19 **WHEREAS** today there is a strong need for the rapid and complete international
20 dissemination of health-medical information and research results in view of the recent
21 outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), considered to be a worldwide
22 health threat;

23 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature continues to encourage the
24 United States Congress to authorize the United States to endorse the request by the Republic
25 of China on Taiwan to be granted official Observer Status at the World Health Organization;
26 and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature again urges the United
28 States Congress to encourage the administration of President George W. Bush to negotiate a
29 free trade agreement with the Republic of China on Taiwan; and be it

30 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature sends a message of
31 goodwill to President Chen Shui-bian regarding his reelection and reaffirming the State of

1 Alaska's relationship with the Republic of China on Taiwan.

2 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Chen Shui-bian, President of
3 the Republic of China on Taiwan; the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
4 States; the Honorable Colin Powell, United States Secretary of State; the Honorable Tommy
5 Thompson, United States Secretary of Health and Human Services; the World Health
6 Assembly; the World Health Organization; Jack K. C. Chiang, Director General, Taipei
7 Economic and Cultural Office, 2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2410, Seattle, WA 98121; and to
8 the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the
9 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.