MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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The House Calendar

The Advance Journal and Calendar of the House of Representatives

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

33rd Legislative Day

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Calling of the House to Order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Pastor Richard Bell, Full Gospel Assembly of Mars Hill.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

Glenn Cummings, Speaker

Millicent M. MacFarland, Clerk

http://janus.state.me.us/house/hcalfr.htm

ORDERS

(4-1) On motion of Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1312) (Cosponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland)

JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TAIWAN AND UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States share an important economic and strategic international relationship; and

WHEREAS, a Taiwan and United States Free Trade Agreement, or TUFTA, advances the national interests of both Taiwan and the United States; and

WHEREAS, both countries are members of the World Trade Organization, or WTO, and TUFTA would expand on the principles advanced by WTO and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan and the United States share and promote a mutual belief in freedom, democracy and antiterrorism and market principles; and

WHEREAS, the level of mutual investment between Taiwan and the United States is quite high, whereby Taiwan is the 8th-largest trading partner of the United States, and in 2005 United States exports to Taiwan totaled \$22,000,000,000; and

WHEREAS, United States exports to Taiwan under TUFTA would expand by an estimated \$3,400,000,000; and

WHEREAS, more investment between the United States and Taiwan would create new business and employment opportunities and would foster closer ties between firms in both countries; and

WHEREAS, streamlined foreign investment procedures developed under TUFTA would lead to further investment by firms in both Taiwan and the United States; and

WHEREAS, TUFTA would stimulate joint development of advanced technology and new high-technology applications and promote new cooperative ventures; and

WHEREAS, a 2002 study by the United States International Trade Commission supports the negotiation of a Taiwan and United States Free Trade Agreement; and

WHEREAS, TUFTA would build on the existing strong relations between Taiwan and the United States to simultaneously boost Taiwan's security and democracy and serve the broader interests of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to express our unequivocal support for the negotiation of a Taiwan and United States Free Trade Agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United States, United States Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez, the Maine Congressional Delegation, President of the Republic of China Chen Shui-bian on behalf of the 23,000,000 citizens of Taiwan and Director-General K. T. Yang of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston, Massachusetts.