

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DAVID E. BOULTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEMO

To: Mark Eves, Speaker of the House
Justin Alford, President of the Senate
Members of the Legislative Council

From: ^{D.B.} David E. Boulter, Executive Director

Date: May 8, 2013

Re: Citizen Trade Policy Commission

Enclosed please find a letter from the Citizen Trade Policy Commission regarding a proposed Resolution titled *Joint Resolution Affirming the Friendship between the State of Maine and the Republic of China*.

The chairs of the CTPC asked that it be distributed to each member of the Council.

Thank you.

G:\executive director\general\Letter\CTPC\Memo to LC re Resolution 5-8-2013.docx

Sen. Troy Jackson, Chair
Sen. John Patrick
Sen. Roger Sherman
Rep. Sharon Treat, Chair
Rep. Jeff McCabe
Rep. Bernard Ayotte

Robert Umphrey
Stephen Cole
Michael Herz
Dr. Joel Kase



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
OFFICE

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STATE OF MAINE

Mike Karagiannes
Wade Merritt
John Palmer
Linda Pistner
Harry Ricker
Jay Wadieigh

Staff:
Lock Kiermaler

Citizen Trade Policy Commission

May 7, 2013

Speaker Mark W. Eves, Chair
President Justin L. Alfond, Vice Chair
Legislative Council
126th Maine State Legislature
115 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

Dear Speaker Eves, President Alfond and Members of the Legislative Council,

As you know, the Maine Citizen Trade Policy Commission (CTPC) "... is established to assess and monitor the legal and economic impacts of trade agreements on state and local laws, working conditions and the business environment; to provide a mechanism for citizens and Legislators to voice their concerns and recommendations; and to make policy recommendations designed to protect Maine's jobs, business environment and laws from any negative impact of trade agreements." [10 MRSA §11(3)] In seeking to fulfill its statutory mandate, the Commission voted unanimously during its meeting of April 26, 2013 to submit this letter to you indicating our strong concerns regarding a resolution currently tabled in the House.

During our April 26th meeting, CTPC member Representative Jeff McCabe asked the commission to review the wording and contents of a proposed Resolution titled "Joint Resolution Affirming the Friendship between the State of Maine and the Republic of China". Representative McCabe noted that this Resolution includes language which supports Taiwan's inclusion in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations International Civil Aviation Organization and the TransPacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). Representative McCabe indicated his significant concerns about the appropriateness of these

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c/o Office of Policy & Legal Analysis
State House Station #13, Augusta, ME 04333-0013 Telephone: 207 287-1670
<http://www.maine.gov/legis/opla/citpol.htm>


various endorsements and pointed out that most of these issues have been reviewed by the CTPC which is the entity created by the Legislature specifically for the review of international trade agreements. To the extent that the TPPA has been reviewed, the CTPC has raised various concerns which are detailed in our 2012 Assessment which can be viewed at the CTPC website:

<http://maine.gov/legis/opla/CTPC2012finalassessment.pdf>

After discussion, the CTPC unanimously endorsed a motion to send you this letter indicating the commission's significant concerns regarding the legislative approval of these endorsements which have not been properly reviewed in any detail by the CTPC or any legislative policy committee.

In closing, we strongly urge you and all members of the Legislature to consider amending the proposed Resolution to omit all endorsements of any participation of the Republic of China in all international trade agreements until such a time that the CTPC and other legislative policy committees can properly review and vet any such endorsement by the Maine State Legislature.

Sincerely,



Senator Troy Jackson, Chair



Representative Sharon Anglin Treat, Chair

Boulter, David

From: Kiermaier, Lock
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 4:38 PM
To: Boulter, David
Cc: Treat, RepSharon (FWD); Jackson, SenTroy
Subject: letter to Legislative Council from CTPC
Attachments: Taiwan letter- Leg Council 5-7-13.pdf

David,

Would you please pass this letter on to members of the Legislative Council? I also mailed a hard copy of the letter today.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,

Lock Kiermaier
Staff, Citizen Trade Policy Commission
e-mail: CTPC@legislature.maine.gov
Cell Phone: (207) 446-0651