SENATE BILL REPORT

SSJM 8008

As Passed Senate, March 9, 1995

Brief Description: Requesting the United States to advocate for the admission of Taiwan to the United Nations.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Wojahn, Sellar, Snyder, Newhouse, Gaspard, Fairley, Swecker, Deccio, Palmer, Drew, McDonald, Oke, Sutherland and Schow).

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Labor, Commerce & Trade: 1/30/95, 2/22/95 [DPS].

Passed Senate, 3/9/95, 39-3.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, COMMERCE & TRADE

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Joint Memorial No. 8008 be substituted therefor, and the substitute joint memorial do pass.

Signed by Senators Pelz, Chair; Heavey, Vice Chair; Deccio, Franklin, Hale, Newhouse, Palmer and Wojahn.

Staff: Jack Brummel (786-7428)

Background: Taiwan is one of Washington State's major trading partners. Taiwan is not currently a member of the United Nations but desires to become one.

Summary of Bill: The Legislature petitions the President and Congress to consider the beneficial commercial relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan; treat public officials of Taiwan with respect; and recognize the readiness of Taiwan to participate in the international community.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Testimony For: This attempts to correct the unfair award of the China seat at the U.N. The 21 million people of Taiwan have no voice at the U.N.

Testimony Against: The U.S. has acknowledged the U.N. resolution recognizing the People's Republic of China as the single entity representing China.

Testified: Senator Wojahn (pro); Robert Chen, Taipei Economic Office (pro); Ruby Chow (pro); Ralph Munro, Secretary of State (con); Bert Heinemann, State Office of International Relations and Protocol (con).

House Amendment(s): References to Taiwan as the Republic of China are removed.

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