SCR 26 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

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Meeting Dates: 3/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The resolution states the Oregon Legislative Assembly reaffirms Oregon's commitment to its relationship with Taiwan; supports reopening Oregon's trade office in Taiwan; supports Taiwan's participation in international organizations; and endorses a closer economic and trade partnership between the United States and Taiwan.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Taiwan, which refers to itself as the Republic of China, is a multiparty democracy and semi-presidential republic with roughly 23.4 million residents off the southeastern coast of mainland China. Mainland China is governed by the People's Republic of China, which claims Taiwan as part of its territory, though it does not govern Taiwan. The United States enacted the Taiwan Relations Act in 1979, which guides a one-China policy to be resolved by peaceful means, and by which the United States provides defensive abilities to Taiwan.

In 2024, the first agreement under the United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade came into force, covering anticorruption, regulatory practices, service suppliers, customs administration, and investment opportunities in small and medium sized enterprises. The United States Census Bureau reports that as of January 2025, Taiwan is the United States' 9th biggest trading partner. Oregon Public Broadcasting reports Taiwan was Oregon's 2nd biggest import partner in 2024, and 9th biggest export partner.

Taiwan and Oregon established a sister state relationship in 1986. The City of Portland maintains a sister city relationship with Kaohsiung, Taiwan, while the City of Beaverton maintains one with Hsinchu, Taiwan. <u>House Bill 2756 (2025)</u>, currently under consideration, proposes the establishment of the Oregon-Taiwan Trade Center.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 26 reaffirms Oregon's commitment to its sister state relationship with Taiwan, and supports trade relations with Taiwan and its participation in international organizations.