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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2016

Taiwan, Nevada DMV Sign Driver's License Reciprocity Agreement *Drivers can skip the skills test when applying for a license*

CARSON CITY – Representatives of Taiwan and the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles formally signed a reciprocity agreement today that enables citizens of both countries to obtain a driver's license without taking a driving skills test if they already hold a license from their home country.

“Taiwanese citizens will still be required to meet the proof of identity requirements and pass a knowledge test to obtain a Nevada driver's license, but this agreement will make the process less time consuming for them as well as for Nevadans living in Taiwan,” said DMV Director Terri L. Albertson.

Albertson and Joseph Ma, Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco, signed the agreement in a ceremony in the Guinn room at the Nevada State Capitol. Ma hailed the pact's significance for economic and educational reasons.

"The agreement will allow residents with a Taiwanese driver's license to forgo the driving skills test to receive a Nevada Driver's license. Nevada drivers will also be able to exchange their state licenses for those issued by Taiwan. This agreement is another manifestation of the strong friendship between the Silver State and Taiwan, sister states since 1985 who maintain a vibrant trade and cultural relationship,” Ma said.

Nevada Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske noted that the economic ties between the Silver State and Taiwan continue to grow and include an internship program with her office.

“I was fortunate to witness first-hand the strengthening relationship between our countries through my years in the Legislature, so I am especially honored to be able to see this important development as I serve as Secretary of State and I look forward to enhancing relations further as we develop our internship program,” Cegavske said.

Nevada is the 17th U.S. state to sign such an agreement with the island of 23 million off the coast of China, which has similar agreements with seven Canadian provinces and more than 20 foreign countries. The pact with Taiwan is the first reciprocity agreement between Nevada and another country.

“This is a historic event and another step in the long-standing and growing relationship that Nevada is building with our sister state Taiwan,” said Nevada State Senator Scott Hammond, who spearheaded passage of the enabling legislation, Assembly Bill 383, during the 2015 Nevada Legislature.

Nevada exported \$47.3 million worth of goods and services to Taiwan in 2014, according to the Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs. The largest share of exports, \$22.4 million, came from the computer and electronics industry.

The relationship between Taiwan and Nevada goes back several decades. The two established a sister-state relationship on October, 1985, In 1991, Taiwan presented Nevada with two plaques that are mounted on the legislative building in Carson City. The same building also houses five paintings by Taiwanese artists that were donated in 1993.

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Links

[Taipei Economic And Cultural Office in San Francisco](#)

[2015 Assembly Bill 383 – Reciprocity Enabling Legislation](#)

[2015 Nevada Senate Concurrent Resolution 8 – 30th Anniversary of Sister-State Relationship](#)

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SCHEDULE

Taiwan Signing Ceremony Agenda

May 25, 2016

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Caterers will set up food.

3:00 pm – 3:10 pm: Ceremony starts. Time for everyone to get situated provide goody bags.

3:10 pm -3:45 pm: Jude Hurin, Nevada DMV, will go to the podium and give an overview of the signing agreement. Senator Hammond and Secretary of the State Cegavske will give a short speech. Director General Ma and Director Albertson will sign the agreement and then they will each say a few words at the podium.

3:45 pm - 4:30 pm: We will enjoy traditional Taiwanese food and celebrate.

4:30 pm – 5:00pm: We will go to LCB and tour the Taiwanese paintings and the State Seals they donated to us. (Caterers will clean up food.)

(The Capitol Building closes at 5:00pm, if we anticipate it going over a few min. we will need to contact Capitol Police)

ATTENDEES AND SEATING

Nevada – Taiwan Signing Ceremony – May 25, 2016

(subject to change)

Nevada (26)

1. Terri Albertson – DMV Director (signing table)
2. Senator Scott Hammond (VIP table)
3. Secretary of the State Cegavske (signing table)
4. Assemblyman Pat Hickey (VIP table)
5. Legal Counsel Brenda Erdoes (VIP table)
6. Ryan Cherry-Chief of Staff of Lt. Governor (VIP table)
7. Amy McKinney-DMV Deputy Director (VIP table)
8. Jude Hurin – DMV Management Services
9. Tonya Laney – DMV Field Services
10. Kevin Malone – DMV Public Information Officer – DMV
11. Marcelino Jackson – DMV programmer
12. Rachel Phillips – DMV Administration
13. Jennifer Pitts – Program Officer
14. Mrs. Shin Hickey
15. Administrator Judy Wytoc
16. Executive Assistant Jennifer Russell
17. SOS Guest
18. SOS Guest
19. 1-2 staff from Lt. Governor's office
20. Patricia Cafferata, Esq (Attorney General Laxalt's Office) (VIP table)
21. Controller Knecht (VIP table)
22. Controller Knecht's Wife, Kathy Knecht
23. Controller Knecht's daughter, Karyn Knecht

TECO (8)

24. Director General Joseph Ma (signing table)
25. Mrs. Ma
26. Director J. Wong (for Nevada affairs) (VIP Table)
27. Director Tiffany Ou of Consular Affairs Division
28. Betty Phelps, senior assistant of Tourism Division
29. Director Huei-wen Hsu of Education Division
30. Director Jerchin Lee of Taiwan Trade Center in San Francisco
31. Director Yu-hua Wu of Overseas Chinese Affairs Division
32. Bert /David(supporting staff)

Local Taiwanese and Media (10-15 people)

ATTENDEES AND SEATING

1. David Ho-Chairman of Taiwan-American Association(TAA) in Reno (VIP Table)
2. P.H Chen-Former Chairman of TAA
3. Mei Herbert-Member of TAA
4. Lindy Frey
5. Taiwanese Student Leaders of UN Reno
6. World Journal Editor

Assembly Bill No. 383—Assemblymen Kirkpatrick
and Paul Anderson

Joint Sponsor: Senator Hammond

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to drivers' licenses; authorizing reciprocal agreements with certain other countries concerning the licensing of drivers; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue a Nevada driver's license to an applicant who has a valid driver's license from a state which has requirements for the issuance of drivers' licenses which are comparable to those of this State. Existing law also authorizes the Director of the Department, acting as the Administrator, to enter into reciprocal agreements with the appropriate officials of other states concerning the licensing of drivers of motor vehicles. (NRS 483.245) **Section 1** of this bill authorizes the Department to issue a Nevada driver's license to an applicant who has a valid driver's license from a country which has requirements for the issuance of drivers' licenses which are comparable to those of this State, and authorizes the Director to enter into reciprocal agreements with the appropriate officials of other countries. **Section 3** of this bill requires the Director, in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between this State and Taiwan, to begin negotiations as soon as practicable with the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco for reciprocity in issuing drivers' licenses to: (1) residents of this State who reside in Taiwan; and (2) Taiwanese citizens who reside in this State.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 483.245 is hereby amended to read as follows:
483.245 1. When a person becomes a resident of Nevada as defined in this chapter and chapter 482 of NRS, the person must, within 30 days, obtain a Nevada driver's license as a prerequisite to driving any motor vehicle in the State of Nevada.

2. Where a person who applies for a license has a valid driver's license from a state *or country* which has requirements for issuance of drivers' licenses comparable to those of the State of Nevada, the Department may issue a Nevada license under the same terms and conditions applicable to a renewal of a license in this State.

3. In carrying out the provisions of this chapter, the Administrator is authorized to enter into reciprocal agreements with



appropriate officials of other states *or countries* concerning the licensing of drivers of motor vehicles.

Sec. 2. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3. The Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles, in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between this State and Taiwan, shall, as soon as practicable, begin negotiations pursuant to the authority granted in section 1 of this act toward a reciprocal agreement between the Department of Motor Vehicles and Taiwan, through the Ministry of Transportation and Communications represented by the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco, California, for reciprocity in issuing drivers' licenses to residents of this State who reside in Taiwan and to Taiwanese citizens who reside in this State. Any agreement negotiated pursuant to this section must be in writing and signed by the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco, California.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8—SENATORS HAMMOND;
ATKINSON, BROWER, DENIS, FARLEY, FORD, GOICOECHEA,
GUSTAVSON, HARDY, HARRIS, KIECKHEFER, KIHUEN,
LIPPARELLI, MANENDO, PARKS, ROBERSON, SEGERBLOM,
SETTELMAYER, SMITH, SPEARMAN AND WOODHOUSE

MAY 5, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN KIRKPATRICK; ELLIOT
ANDERSON, PAUL ANDERSON, ARAUJO, ARMSTRONG,
BENITEZ-THOMPSON, BUSTAMANTE ADAMS, CARLTON,
CARRILLO, DIAZ, DICKMAN, DOOLING, EDWARDS,
ELLISON, FIORE, FLORES, GARDNER, HAMBRICK, HANSEN,
HICKEY, JOINER, JONES, KIRNER, MOORE, MUNFORD,
NEAL, NELSON, OHRENSCHALL, O'NEILL, OSCARSON,
SEAMAN, SHELTON, SILBERKRAUS, SPIEGEL, SPRINKLE,
STEWART, SWANK, THOMPSON, TITUS, TROWBRIDGE,
WHEELER AND WOODBURY

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Commemorates the 30th anniversary of the sister-
state relationship between the State of Nevada and
Taiwan. (BDR R-1265)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Commemorating the
30th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between
the State of Nevada and Taiwan.

- 1 WHEREAS, On October 24, 1985, the State of Nevada invited
- 2 Taiwan to join the State of Nevada as a sister state to strengthen
- 3 international understanding and good will and to establish a greater
- 4 friendship between the residents of Nevada and Taiwan; and
- 5 WHEREAS, As a token of this friendship, in 1991, the people of
- 6 Taiwan presented the State of Nevada with two beautiful metal state
- 7 seals which were placed prominently on the north and south exterior
- 8 walls of the Legislative Building; and



1 WHEREAS, In 1993, The State of Nevada was honored by
2 receiving as a gift five beautiful paintings by Professor James
3 Yeh-Jau Liu and Professor Wang Ch'ang-chieh which are displayed
4 inside the Legislative Building; and

5 WHEREAS, Under the leadership of President Ma Ying-jeou,
6 Taiwan has proposed an East China Sea Peace Initiative that
7 encourages all parties concerned in the East and South China Sea
8 territorial dispute to work jointly and peacefully to develop the
9 region economically, reduce tensions through dialogue and seek
10 consensus in establishing a code of conduct for the region; and

11 WHEREAS, For the past 30 years, the bonds of friendship
12 between the State of Nevada and Taiwan have strengthened,
13 resulting in a better understanding of the economic, social and
14 cultural heritages of Nevada and Taiwan; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE
16 ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 78th Session of
17 the Nevada Legislature, on behalf of the people of the State of
18 Nevada, do hereby express their sincere gratitude and appreciation
19 to the people of Taiwan for 30 years of enlightenment, friendship
20 and mutual economic growth as our sister state; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That it is with great pride that the State of Nevada
22 looks forward to many more rewarding years as a sister state with
23 Taiwan; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and
25 transmit a copy of this resolution to Director General Bruce Gen-
26 Gang Fuh of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San
27 Francisco, California.



Taiwan: Nevada's 9th largest export market in Asia

Building on Strong Trade Ties

In 2014, Nevada's exports to Taiwan reached \$47.3 million, making Taiwan Nevada's 9th largest export market in Asia, and 23th largest export market in the world. Nevada companies have substantial opportunities to expand their business and cooperation with Taiwan.

Growing a Key Market for Innovation

As Nevada grows its business IT eco-systems and clean energy industry, it has much to gain through enhancing trade ties with Taiwan. A strong trade relationship with Taiwan's growing IT and clean energy industry will not only help Nevada increase its exports to Taiwan, but also promote bilateral cooperation in innovation. Taiwan's hi-tech sectors can effectively integrate R&D operations and supply chains stretching from Nevada, via Taiwan, into Mainland China and Southeast Asia.

Bringing New Trade and Investment Home

The computer and electronics and many other sectors important to Nevada's economy are poised to benefit from partnership with Taiwan. A trade agreement between both Taiwan and the United States will lift tariffs and increase the bilateral trade, effectively creating demand for U.S. exports.

Closer investment ties will also bring in more investment that will support the local economy. Nevada has attracted \$9 million in investment from Taiwanese companies (by July 2012), according to the Investment Commission of the Ministry of Economic Affairs. This includes Amexcom Electronics which is based in Carson City. More investment could equate to more jobs. The U.S. International Trade Administration reports that in 2010, foreign invested firms were responsible for almost 4% of the state's total private industry employment, and employed 37,900 Nevada workers. Taiwanese companies have created thousands of jobs in Nevada, and there is still significant potential for Taiwanese enterprises to boost investment and create more jobs in Nevada.

2014 Nevada's Top Exports to Taiwan

PRODUCT	VALUE (USD)	%
Computer and Electronic Products	\$22,379,501	47.3%
Primary Metal	\$6,933,095	14.6%
Fabricated Metal Products	\$4,598,437	9.7%
Machinery, except Electrical	\$2,879,100	6.1%
Others	\$10,541,676	22.3%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce (Product export % may exceed 100 due to round up)

9th

Largest export market in Asia of Nevada is Taiwan

\$47.3 million

Nevada's exports to Taiwan in 2014

11.7%

Growth in Nevada exports to Taiwan from 2012 to 2014

10th

Largest trading partner of the United States is Taiwan