

駐亞特蘭大台北經濟文化辦事處
Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Atlanta

March 4, 2016

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The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor, State of South Carolina
1203 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,


Kentucky Governor Steven Beshear visited Taiwan in May 2012 and April 2015. In 2015, he signed Letters of Intent with Taiwan for corn and soybean purchases from the farmers of Kentucky in 2016 and 2017. I have enclosed a brochure with further details of the agreement. As Governor Beshear's visits -- and recent visits by Governors of Montana, Hawaii, and Louisiana -- show, a trip to Taiwan can help further investment and trade. Trade between Taiwan and the US totaled \$67.4 billion in 2014. At the moment, Taiwan is the US's 9th largest trading partner and the US is Taiwan's 2nd largest trading partner.

Taiwan and China have signed 23 cross-strait agreements since 2008, including the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement. More than one million Taiwanese now do business in mainland China, and Taiwan and mainland China are in negotiations to set up trade offices. Mainland China is Taiwan's largest trading partner, with trade values in 2014 of US\$198.31 billion. Nearly four million mainland Chinese tourists visited Taiwan in 2014, and there are now more than 100 cross-strait flights daily.

In 2014, Daniel Russel, US Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, wrote to governors and select city mayors urging more interaction with Taiwan. Russel noted that commercial and cultural engagement with Taiwan is fully compatible with good relations with the People's Republic of China. The historic November 7, 2015 meeting between Taiwan's President Ma Ying-Jeou and mainland China's President Xi Jinping was a landmark in cross-strait relations. For further questions regarding relations with Taiwan, please contact the American Institute in Taiwan in Washington, DC, which is supported by the US Department of State.

My government would be honored to host you and your entourage to lead a trade delegation to Taiwan. Our office would be happy to organize travel arrangements.

Warm regards,


Hsuei-Yuan (Steven) Tai
Director General

Enclosure