

**2015 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**SCR 4013**

# 2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Missouri River Room, State Capitol

SCR 4013  
2/19/2015  
Job # 24117

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

A concurrent resolution urging North Dakota to continue its endorsement and support of the relationship and shared interests between the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the State of North Dakota.

### Minutes:

Attachments 1

**Chairman Dever:** Opened the hearing on SCR 4013.

**Senator Miller, District 10:** See Attachment #1 for testimony as sponsor and in support of the bill.

**(4:00)Chairman Dever:** Have you been to Taiwan?

**Senator Miller:** I have. I went there this past summer with Senator Wardner. We talked trade with some folks there. They showed us around and they took us out to their "NDSU" and showed us some of their farming. We looked at their farming and it is a minute amount of land that they actually farm. Of their farmable land, they only farm about a third of it. No one wants to farm there because it is mostly rice patties. They have been trying to create programs to get people into farming. It is a security issue for them. They are entirely reliant on imports.

**(5:25) Senator Wardner, District 37:** Testified as sponsor and in support of the bill. I was very impressed with Taiwan. They know more about us than we know about ourselves. They have been to NDSU and have worked with Ag programs there. They are very efficient in the agriculture that they have. They get the most out of the tillable land that they have. They are very aggressive. Even though they are a capitalistic government, and the government does direct things, their technology and educational parks all go together and they are on the edge of technology. They have technology for us but we have the agricultural products for them. I think that mainland China has had to accept them because they are so capitalistic and they are generating an economy that mainland China cannot ignore. They are very industrious and they are very good friends of North Dakota.

**(7:09) Chairman Dever:** Closed the hearing on SCR 4013.

**Senator Flakoll: Moved a Do Pass.**

**Senator Nelson: Seconded.**

**A Roll Call Vote Was Taken: 7 yeas, 0 nays, 0 absent.**

**Motion Carried.**

**Senator Flakoll will carry the bill.**

**2015 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE**  
**ROLL CALL VOTES**  
**BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 4013**

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass     Do Not Pass     Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended     Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
 Other Actions:  Reconsider     \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Flakoll    Seconded By Nelson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Dever	✓		Senator Marcellais	✓	
Vice Chairman Poolman	✓		Senator Nelson	✓	
Senator Cook	✓				
Senator Davison	✓				
Senator Flakoll	✓				

Total (Yes) 7    No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Flakoll

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SCR 4013: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Dever, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
SCR 4013 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

**2015 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**SCR 4013**

# 2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Fort Union, State Capitol

SCR 4013  
3/20/2015  
25219

- Subcommittee  
 Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature

*Carmen Hart*

### Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Concurrent resolution urging ND to continue its endorsement and support of the relationship and shared interests between the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the state of ND

### Minutes:

Attachment 1

**Chairman Kasper** opened the hearing on SCR 4013.

**Senator Joe Miller** appeared in support. Attachment 1. (:33-2:55)

**Rep. Laning** Who actually requested this?

**Senator Miller** We don't have normalized relations with Taiwan. They have these cultural trade offices instead of embassies. Their representative asked us to introduce this because as you know, there is this interesting relationship between mainland China and the island of Taiwan. Both recognize themselves as the official government of China, but the Taiwanese resign themselves somewhat to just recognize that they rule the island and the Communists rule the mainland.

**Chairman Kasper** Have you been able to visit Taiwan personally?

**Senator Miller** Yes, I went there last summer with Senator Wardner as a delegation from the United States. Also the lieutenant governor from Missouri, a couple senators from Missouri, and two representatives from Kansas were there.

**Chairman Kasper** About how large is that island?

**Senator Miller** I think it is about 200 miles in length. I would say it is about the size of the eastern third of North Dakota. They have about 20 million people living on the island. They are really trying to pull themselves more toward a service based technological society so that they are economy based rather than textiles and factories. They don't have the arable soil to grow the diverse crops that we can grow that they want. They want American beef, pork, wheat, soybeans, and black beans. They are only farming about one third of their

arable land and their farmers are very old. The only thing they really grow is rice and grapes and some vegetables.

**Chairman Kasper** I see that North Dakota does a lot of trading with Taiwan.

**Senator Miller** Yes, North Dakota is a substantial trading partner. It is a benefactor for our state. As we hopefully increase our production of livestock, we will keep those ties. They started trading a lot with mainland China more so in the last few years, and it has been a benefit to both groups. They don't want to rely on trade with China because of the harsh relationship they have. They always want to make sure they still have American support, so they continue to buy lots of products from us.

No opposition.

The hearing was closed.

**Rep. Steiner** made a motion for a DO PASS AND PUT ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

**Rep. Karls** seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. 12 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Absent.

**Rep. Karls** will carry the bill.

Date: 3-20-15  
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

**2015 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
 ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 4013**

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Subcommittee

Amendment LC# or Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation:  Adopt Amendment  
 Do Pass     Do Not Pass     Without Committee Recommendation  
 As Amended     Rerefer to Appropriations  
 Place on Consent Calendar  
 Other Actions:  Reconsider     \_\_\_\_\_

Motion Made By Steiner    Seconded By Karls

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Jim Kasper	X		Rep. Bill Amerman	X	
Vice Chair Karen Rohr	X		Rep. Gail Mooney		
Rep. Jason Dockter	X		Rep. Mary Schneider	X	
Rep. Mary C. Johnson	X		Rep. Kris Wallman	X	
Rep. Karen Karls	X				
Rep. Ben Koppelman					
Rep. Vernon Laning	X				
Rep. Scott Louser	X				
Rep. Jay Seibel	X				
Rep. Vicky Steiner	X				

Total (Yes) 12 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Karls

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SCR 4013: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. Kasper, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** and **BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR**  
(12 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4013 was placed on the  
Tenth order on the calendar.

**2015 TESTIMONY**

**SCR 4013**

February 19, 2015



## North Dakota Senate

State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

### Senator

Joe Miller  
District 10  
214 Harris Avenue North  
Park River, ND 58270-4512

Cell: 701-331-1491  
[joemiller@nd.gov](mailto:joemiller@nd.gov)

### Committees:

Agriculture, Chairman  
Industry, Business and Labor

"Formosa" was the name given to the Island of Taiwan by the Portuguese. It means "beautiful island."

Taiwan is the 10th largest trading partner of the United States. And the United States is Taiwan's second trading partner. We have a close and strong business relationship.

Taiwan has an interesting place in American and World politics. As you may or may not know, Taiwan is known as the Republic of China. In 1949, the Chinese communists forced the government into exile on the island of Taiwan. Taiwan had been a colony of Japan for a number of years prior to the end of World War II. In that time, the Japanese built some impressive infrastructure. Hydroelectric, schools, roads and other structures that were built by Imperial Japan are still in use today by the people of Taiwan.

Since then, the people of Taiwan of built even more impressive buildings and infrastructure. High-speed rail bisects the length of the island. Science and technology parks, factories and cities dot the island. Taipei 101 is one of the world's tallest buildings.

The resolution is meant to show support for a very important trade partner and a good friend of the American people. Taiwan is a small nation that is very reliant on agriculture imports. Our support for Taiwan is important to our trade but also to security of the region. Although we have strong and healthy ties with many nations in the region there are some that have stark philosophical difference in how government should operate. These differences are important to recognize as they need to be held in check in order to protect America's ability to trade and avoid escalation in political tension.

I ask the committee's favorable consideration of the resolution and show strong support for a good North Dakota trade partner.

# 1 4013 3-20-15

February 19, 2015



## North Dakota Senate

State Capitol  
600 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0360

### Senator

Joe Miller  
District 10  
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