



LFC Requester: Rodriguez

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date Prepared: 02/15 /25

Bill No: HJM6

Sponsor: Anyanonu/Duhigg/Gurrola/Duncan/
Anaya

Agency Name and Code: PED - 924

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Short Title: STRENGTHEN RELATIONS
WITH TAIWAN

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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
None	None	N/A	NFA

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined	N/A	NFA

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act: None.

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Joint Memorial 6 (HJM6) would resolve that the legislature support strengthening relations between the United States and Taiwan and between New Mexico and Taiwan. Specifically, the legislature would resolve to support:

- trade, the exchange of visits by officials and support of organizations;
- additional negotiations and agreements under the US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade Implementation Act;
- advocacy for Taiwan's inclusion in the Indo-Pacific economic framework for prosperity;
- efforts to establish an agreement on double taxation avoidance;
- negotiations for a bilateral trade agreement;
- Taiwan's participation in the comprehensive and progressive agreement for a trans-Pacific partnership;
- Taiwan's meaningful participation in the United Nations system, including organizations for health, aviation, climate change, and international police; and
- the US-Taiwan Education Initiative and encouraged cooperation between New Mexico and Taiwan in K-12 education and university education.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill does not contain an appropriation.

The US-Taiwan Education Initiative, which began in 2020, [notes](#) that the exchange of visits by officials has occurred twice annually in past years, and that 26 of the participating states have signed memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with the Taiwan Ministry of Education (MOE). Undetermined is the future cost or revenue from legislative support for the exchange of visits by education officials and administrators or what costs may be incurred associated with any commitments of an MOU. An MOU may also result in external funding or in-kind support for Mandarin-language-related educational services in public schools.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The US does not officially recognize Taiwan as a separate country but supports it through diplomatic engagements such as the US-Taiwan Education Initiative. In previous years, similar legislative resolutions and memorials to HJM6 have been signed, but none have included the specific areas of support such as full participation in the United Nations systems or the US-Taiwan Education Initiative.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

States participating in the [US-Taiwan Education Initiative](#) have benefited in the following ways, which may be seen in future years in New Mexico as a result of HJM6:

- **Mandarin Language Education.** The initiative has facilitated the deployment of Taiwanese Mandarin teachers and teaching assistants to U.S. schools. In 2023, Taiwan's Ministry of Education funded 88 Mandarin teachers and 59 teaching assistants to teach in the United States, enriching language programs and providing students with authentic language learning experiences.

- **Recognition of Mandarin Proficiency.** The Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL), administered by Taiwan, was officially approved by the New York State Department of Education in September 2023 as a recognized assessment for the New York State Seal of Bilingual Proficiency. This approval offers students a standardized pathway to certify their Mandarin proficiency.
- **Establishment of Mandarin Learning Center.** Taiwan has supported the creation of Taiwan Centers for Mandarin Learning (TCMLs) across the United States (none are currently located in New Mexico). By 2023, 66 centers were established, providing communities with access to Mandarin language instruction and cultural resources.
- **Sister School Partnerships.** The initiative has promoted the formation of sister school relationships between U.S. and Taiwanese educational institutions. As of 2023, 103 Taiwan-U.S. sister schools were established at the elementary and secondary levels, fostering cross-cultural exchanges and collaborative learning opportunities.
- **University Collaborations.** The [University Academic Alliance in Taiwan](#), comprising 12 Taiwanese universities, signed memoranda of understanding with U.S. state university systems in Texas and Illinois in 2023. These agreements focus on cooperation in fields such as semiconductors, engineering sciences, and Mandarin-language education, enhancing academic and research opportunities.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Participating in the US-Taiwan Education Initiative may involve receipt of external administrative support for bilingual-multicultural education programs (BMEP) in Mandarin Chinese.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.