Senate Resolution No. 823

BY: Senator SEPULVEDA

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 28, 2025, as Taiwan Heritage Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan) share common values and a clear vision for the 21st century, where freedom and democracy serve as the foundation for peace, prosperity, and progress; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Congress passed the landmark Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) in 1979 to sustain a close bilateral relationship and advance mutual security and commercial interests between the U.S. and Taiwan; thereafter, the TRA and Six Assurances have served as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations and helped preserve peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait; April 10, 2025, marks the 46th Anniversary of the enactment of the TRA; and

WHEREAS, Peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait is crucial to the maintenance of a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific, and its importance has been highlighted in recent global summits such as the Quad, U.S.-Japan, U.S.-Korea, U.S.-EU, G7, NATO, and EAS summits; moreover, Taiwan is an indispensable partner in safeguarding peace and stability in the region; and

WHEREAS, The United States and Taiwan share a close, long-term economic relationship, including $158.60 billion in bilateral trade in 2024, making Taiwan the 7th largest trading partner of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The first agreement under the U.S.-Taiwan Initiative on 21st Century Trade was signed on June 1, 2023, which is conducive to deepening the existing trade partnership and enhancing U.S.-Taiwan trade flows to promote innovation and inclusive economic growth for workers and businesses; and

WHEREAS, The United States-Taiwan Education Initiative was launched in 2020 to strengthen cooperation on international education and highlight Taiwan's ability to provide Mandarin language instruction; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is a trustworthy partner in mitigating the impact of natural disasters by providing disaster relief, humanitarian assistance, and medical assistance; and

WHEREAS, Many of the United States' top 500 companies headquartered in New York have invested in Taiwan, while more than 300 Taiwanese companies have invested in the State of New York, contributing to a mutually beneficial relationship; and

WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul signed Legislation S.4329-A /A.3935-A into law, allowing people to exchange their valid overseas license for a

New York driver's license if an agreement is reached with their respective government; Taiwan has signed mutual driver's license recognition pacts with 36 U.S. states since 2013; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York is home to a thriving overseas ethnic Chinese community, including organizations such as the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Taiwan Center, Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce of New York, and Chinese Chamber of Commerce of New York; these organizations devote themselves to the harmony and development of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this legislative body pauses in its deliberations to proclaim May 28, 2025, as Taiwan Heritage Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York; His Excellency Lai Ching-te, President of the Republic of China (Taiwan); and Tom Chih-Chiang Lee, Ambassador of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York.