



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
 State Board
 of Education

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Governor Kay Ivey
 President

**EDUCATION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
 OFFICIALLY SIGNED BETWEEN TAIWAN AND ALABAMA**

Jackie Zeligler
 District I

Montgomery, Ala. – Today, Representative to the United States, Bi-khim Hsiao, witnessed the signing of the memorandum of education cooperation with Taiwan by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the Alabama Department of Education.

Tracie West
 District II

Representative Hsiao also officially accepted a joint friendship resolution passed by the State Senate and House and presented by Speaker of the House, Mac McCutcheon.

Stephanie Bell
 District III

The signing ceremony for the memorandum was held at the Alabama State Capitol.

It was signed by Dr. Jim Purcell, Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, and State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Eric Mackey.

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
 District IV
 Vice President

Representative Hsiao, Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill, Speaker Mac McCutcheon, state representatives, and members of the Taiwanese community were also present.

The memorandum will be sent to Taiwan’s Ministry of Education to complete the signing.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
 District V

Alabama is the second state to sign an education cooperation memorandum with Taiwan, after the launch of the “US-Taiwan Education Initiative” in 2020.

Cynthia McCarty, Ph.D.
 District VI

This initiative aims to establish a language cooperation platform to promote Mandarin Chinese and English language learning, a teacher-student exchange, as well as also holding innovative academic programs to cultivate international talents.

Belinda McRae
 District VII

Before the signing ceremony, the Alabama Senate and House of Representatives unanimously passed the friendship resolution, supporting the promotion of bilingual exchanges with Taiwan. Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon personally handed the resolution to Representative Hsiao.

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
 District VIII
 President Pro Tem

This resolution also supports Taiwan’s participation in international organizations and calls on the United States to begin negotiations with Taiwan on a bilateral trade agreement.

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 Secretary and
 Executive Officer

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