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**Kansas, Taiwan sign agreement for mutual driver's license recognition**

**TOPEKA**—Kansas and Taiwanese officials signed an agreement Friday that will allow reciprocal driver's license privileges for citizens of Taiwan and Kansas.

The memorandum of understanding will give the thousands of Taiwanese nationals living in Kansas the ability to exchange their Taiwanese driver's license for a Kansas credential. Additionally, Kansans living in Taiwan can exchange their Kansas license for a Taiwanese driving credential.

Kansas law already allows people from Taiwan to drive on Kansas roads using their Taiwanese license. Exchanging the credentials will reduce confusion in any transaction where an ID is required.

"This is an important agreement for the quality of life of people living and working in Kansas and in Taiwan," Revenue Secretary Sam Williams said. "Taiwan is an important friend and economic partner to Kansas, and we already have thousands of people who are Taiwanese citizens who make positive contributions to Kansas."

As part of the agreement, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office will complete translation of the safety portions of the Kansas Driver's Handbook into Standard Chinese. However, most of the people who will be making use of the agreement already understand English fluently.

There are approximately 23 other states in the U.S. that have entered into a similar agreement with Taiwan. So far, more than two thousand American citizens who live in Taiwan have enjoyed the benefits of mutual recognition of drivers' licenses.

Kansas has had similar arrangements in place with Germany and France since the 1990s.

Taiwan is a very loyal buyer of Kansas's agriculture commodities.

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