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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To express United States support for Taiwan’s diplomatic alliances around the world.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CURTIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To express United States support for Taiwan’s diplomatic alliances around the world.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Taiwan Allies Inter-
5 national Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI)
6 Act of 2019”.

7 **SEC. 2. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
9 ings:

1 (1) The Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (Public
2 Law 96–8) states that it is the policy of the United
3 States “to preserve and promote extensive, close,
4 and friendly commercial, cultural, and other rela-
5 tions between the people of the United States and
6 the people on Taiwan”.

7 (2) The Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 states
8 that it is the policy of the United States “to main-
9 tain the capacity of the United States to resist any
10 resort to force or other forms of coercion that would
11 jeopardize the security, or the social or economic
12 system, of the people on Taiwan”.

13 (3) Taiwan is a free, democratic, and pros-
14 perous nation of 23,000,000 people and an impor-
15 tant contributor to peace and stability around the
16 world.

17 (4) Since the election of President Tsai Ing-wen
18 as President of Taiwan in 2016, the Government of
19 the People’s Republic of China has intensified its ef-
20 forts to pressure Taiwan.

21 (5) Since 2016, the Gambia, Sao Tome and
22 Principe, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Burkina
23 Faso, El Salvador, the Solomon Islands, and
24 Kiribati have severed diplomatic relations with Tai-
25 wan in favor of diplomatic relations with China.

1 (6) Taiwan currently maintains full diplomatic
2 relations with 15 nations around the world.

3 (7) Taiwan’s unofficial relations with the
4 United States, Australia, India, Japan, and other
5 countries are of significant benefit in strengthening
6 Taiwan’s economy and preserving its international
7 space.

8 (8) According to President Tsai Ing-wen, the
9 severance of diplomatic ties with Taiwan in favor of
10 diplomatic relations with China is “part of a series
11 of diplomatic and military acts of coercion” by
12 China.

13 (9) The Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of
14 2018 (Public Law 115–409) states that—

15 (A) it is United States policy “to support
16 the close economic, political, and security rela-
17 tionship between Taiwan and the United
18 States”; and

19 (B) the President should—

20 (i) “conduct regular transfers of de-
21 fense articles to Taiwan that are tailored
22 to meet the existing and likely future
23 threats from the People’s Republic of
24 China, including supporting the efforts of
25 Taiwan to develop and integrate asym-

1 metric capabilities, as appropriate, includ-
2 ing mobile, survivable, and cost-effective
3 capabilities, into its military forces”; and

4 (ii) “encourage the travel of high-level
5 United States officials to Taiwan, in ac-
6 cordance with the Taiwan Travel Act”.

7 **SEC. 3. STRENGTHENING OF OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL**
8 **TIES WITH TAIWAN.**

9 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
10 gress that the United States Government should—

11 (1) support Taiwan in strengthening its official
12 diplomatic relationships as well as unofficial partner-
13 ships with countries in the Indo-Pacific region and
14 around the world;

15 (2) consider, in certain cases as appropriate
16 and in alignment with United States interests, in-
17 creasing its economic, security, and diplomatic en-
18 gagement with nations that have demonstrably
19 strengthened, enhanced, or upgraded relations with
20 Taiwan; and

21 (3) consider, in certain cases as appropriate
22 and in alignment with United States interests, re-
23 ducing its economic, security, and diplomatic en-
24 gagement with nations that take serious or signifi-
25 cant actions to undermine Taiwan.

1 (b) CONSULTATION.—Not less than 30 days before
2 increasing or decreasing the United States Government’s
3 economic, security, or diplomatic engagement with another
4 nation as a result of an action taken by that nation to
5 either strengthen or undermine ties with Taiwan, the Sec-
6 retary of State shall consult with the appropriate congres-
7 sional committees with respect to the proposed United
8 States action or actions.

9 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
10 shall be construed to supersede or otherwise alter obliga-
11 tions to comply with the notification procedures applicable
12 to reprogramming pursuant to section 634A of the For-
13 eign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2394–1).

14 **SEC. 4. POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES WITH REGARD TO**
15 **TAIWAN’S PARTICIPATION IN INTER-**
16 **NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

17 It should be the policy of the United States—

18 (1) to advocate, as appropriate—

19 (A) for Taiwan’s membership in all inter-
20 national organizations in which statehood is not
21 a requirement and in which the United States
22 is also a participant; and

23 (B) for Taiwan to be granted observer sta-
24 tus in other appropriate international organiza-
25 tions;

1 (2) to instruct, as appropriate, representatives
2 of the United States Government in all organizations
3 described in paragraph (1) to use the voice, vote,
4 and influence of the United States to advocate for
5 Taiwan’s membership or observer status in such or-
6 ganizations; and

7 (3) for the President or the President’s des-
8 ignees to advocate, as appropriate, for Taiwan’s
9 membership or observer status in all organizations
10 described in paragraph (1) as part of any relevant
11 bilateral engagements between the United States
12 and the People’s Republic of China, including leader
13 summits and the U.S.-China Comprehensive Eco-
14 nomic Dialogue.

15 **SEC. 5. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON TRADE NEGOTIATIONS**
16 **WITH TAIWAN.**

17 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
18 should engage in bilateral trade negotiations with Taiwan,
19 with the goal of entering into a free trade agreement that
20 is of mutual economic benefit and that protects United
21 States workers and benefits United States exporters.

22 **SEC. 6. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
23 **FINED.**

24 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
25 mittees” means—

- 1 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
- 2 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and
- 3 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
- 4 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
- 5 resentatives.