

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 232

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding security for Taiwan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 26, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. PENCE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. WU) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding security for
Taiwan.

Whereas for over half a century a close relationship has existed between the United States and Taiwan which has been of enormous economic, cultural, and strategic advantage to both countries;

Whereas Taiwan today is a full-fledged democracy with a vibrant economy and a vigorous multi-party political system that respects human rights and the rule of law;

Whereas Taiwan is an ally of the United States, as most recently evidenced by Taiwan's provision of humanitarian and financial assistance to Afghanistan at the request of the United States and its support for Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas the security of the 23 million people in Taiwan is threatened by the deployment by the People's Republic of China of over 400 short-range ballistic missiles targeted at Taiwan, and the purchase by the PRC of advanced weaponry systems, including Su-27 and Su-30 fighter planes, Kilo submarines, and Sovremenny destroyers;

Whereas Taiwan was threatened by missile exercises conducted by the PRC in August 1995 and again in March 1996 when Taiwan was conducting its first free and direct presidential elections;

Whereas section 2(b)(4) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(4)) considers any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States;

Whereas section 2(b)(6) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(6)) requires the United States to maintain the capacity to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people on Taiwan;

Whereas in his January 17, 2001, confirmation hearing as Secretary of State, General Colin Powell stated that "We will stand by Taiwan and will provide for the defense needs of Taiwan in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act and the subsequent communiques.";

Whereas President Bush stated on April 24, 2001, that the United States will do whatever it takes to help Taiwan defend itself;

Whereas in his testimony before the International Relations Committee of the House of Representatives and the For-

eign Relations Committee of the Senate in February and March of 2002, Admiral Dennis Blair of the United States Pacific Command testified that “China continued to build and exercise its force of short-range ballistic missiles ranging Taiwan. It still seeks to develop a range of military options to influence and intimidate Taiwan, and has not abandoned the option of using force to resolve Taiwan’s status.”; and

Whereas the July 2002 U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission report to Congress stated that “China is enhancing its capability to carry out attacks across the Taiwan Strait with its special operations forces, air forces and navy and missiles forces with little notice,” and “the Commission recommends that the U.S. along with its allies should continue to call upon China to renounce the threat of or the use of force against Taiwan.”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) grave concerns exist concerning the deploy-
4 ment by the People’s Republic of China of hundreds
5 of ballistic missiles directed toward Taiwan, which
6 threaten the security and stability in the Taiwan
7 Strait;

8 (2) the President should direct all appropriate
9 United States officials to raise these concerns with
10 the appropriate officials from the People’s Republic
11 of China, and should seek a public, immediate, and
12 unequivocal renunciation from the leaders of the

1 People's Republic of China of any threat or use of
2 force against Taiwan;

3 (3) the President should affirm with the leaders
4 of the People's Republic of China that there will not
5 be a quid pro quo between the dismantling of mis-
6 siles aimed at Taiwan by the People's Republic of
7 China, and arms sales to Taiwan by the United
8 States;

9 (4) China should dismantle the missiles that
10 threaten Taiwan, otherwise the President should au-
11 thorize the sale of the Aegis system to Taiwan,
12 which would enable Taiwan to defend itself against
13 the threat of a missile attack by China; and

14 (5) the future of Taiwan should be determined
15 peacefully and with the express consent of the people
16 of Taiwan.

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