

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3979

To provide expanded cooperation by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with Taiwan, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 4, 2026

Mr. SCHMITT (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To provide expanded cooperation by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with Taiwan, and for other purposes.

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 and American
5 Space Assistance Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. SPACE COOPERATION WITH TAIWAN.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of

1 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, with
2 the concurrence of the Secretary of State and in coordina-
3 tion with the Secretary of Commerce (acting through the
4 Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
5 Administration), may seek to engage Taiwan relating to
6 expanding cooperation regarding civilian space activities.

7 (b) COOPERATION EFFORTS.—In seeking to expand
8 cooperation regarding civilian space activities between the
9 National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Na-
10 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Tai-
11 wan under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Na-
12 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Ad-
13 ministrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
14 ministration, with the concurrence of the Secretary of
15 State, may carry out efforts to identify and pursue space
16 exploration, space applications, and science initiatives in
17 areas of mutual benefit, consistent with the Taiwan Rela-
18 tions Act of 1979 and applicable export regulations, and
19 taking all appropriate measures to protect sensitive infor-
20 mation, intellectual property, trade secrets, and economic
21 interests of the United States, in the following areas:

22 (1) Satellite programs, space exploration pro-
23 grams, and atmospheric and weather programs.

24 (2) Personnel exchanges of employees of the
25 National Aeronautics and Space Administration and

1 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
2 tion with the Taiwan Space Agency.

3 (3) Activities of mutual benefit related to com-
4 mercial space and atmospheric and weather tech-
5 nology and services.

6 (c) REPORT.—

7 (1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days
8 after the date of the enactment of this Act and an-
9 nually thereafter for five years, the Administrator of
10 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration,
11 the Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-
12 mospheric Administration, and the Secretary of
13 State, shall jointly submit to the appropriate con-
14 gressional committees a report on the implementa-
15 tion of this section.

16 (2) CONTENTS.—The report under paragraph
17 (1) shall include the following:

18 (A) A description of the activities con-
19 ducted between the National Aeronautics and
20 Space Administration and the National Oceanic
21 and Atmospheric Administration with Taiwan.

22 (B) An identification of any challenges
23 that need to be addressed to expand such co-
24 operation.

1 (C) An overview of efforts undertaken pur-
2 suant to this section.

3 (D) Any other matter the Administrator of
4 the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
5 tration, the Administrator of the National Oce-
6 anic and Atmospheric Administration, and the
7 Secretary of State consider relevant.

8 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
9 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
10 gressional committees” means—

11 (1) the Committee on Science, Space, and
12 Technology and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
13 the House of Representatives; and

14 (2) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
15 Transportation and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
16 tions of the Senate.

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