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# S. RES. 716

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding critical elements of the United States policy towards the People's Republic of China.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2026

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. RICKETTS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MORENO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. KIM, Mr. MCCORMICK, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BANKS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WICKER, and Ms. SLOTKIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding critical elements of the United States policy towards the People's Republic of China.

Whereas the People's Republic of China is the foremost rival and strategic competitor of the United States that has the intent and capacity to undermine the security, economic prosperity, and strategic interests of the United States and the allies and partners of the United States;

Whereas the People's Republic of China has rapidly modernized and expanded its military in a manner that—

(1) poses direct threats to the security and economic prosperity of the United States, including by expanding

its arsenal of nuclear, maritime, conventional long-range strike, cyber, space, and intelligence capabilities;

(2) aims to project power and deter the United States presence in the Indo-Pacific region;

(3) facilitates intensified coercive military and illegal, coercive, aggressive, and deceptive activities (also known as “gray zone activities”) that—

(A) threaten the security and sovereignty of countries in the Indo-Pacific region; and

(B) compromise freedom of navigation in vital lanes of commerce, such as the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait;

(4) aims to give the People’s Republic of China the capability to carry out its threat to alter the status quo in the Taiwan Strait by coercion or force, including by delaying or denying third-party involvement in a Taiwan Strait contingency; and

(5) supports United States adversaries, such as the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, and the Russian Federation, including through the sharing of military technology and materiel;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China employs a wide range of state-directed economic and industrial policies designed to—

(1) disadvantage United States workers, firms, and long-term economic competitiveness;

(2) secure dominance in strategic industries; and

(3) distort global markets, including by—

(A) exploiting its position across global supply chains, such as critical minerals, advanced manufacturing inputs, and other strategic goods;

(B) forcing technology transfers;

(C) engaging in intellectual property theft;

- (D) creating market distortions;
- (E) imposing expansive export controls; and
- (F) establishing barriers to market access;

Whereas the People's Republic of China is working—

- (1) to surpass the United States in the development of critical emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing, which will define twenty-first century economic and military power; and
- (2) to use such technologies—
  - (A) to expand the reach and range of their offensive military capabilities; and
  - (B) to conduct widespread cyber operations, including operations targeting the United States and its partners;

Whereas the People's Republic of China continues to be the primary source of precursor chemicals used by transnational criminal organizations to synthesize illicit substances (including illicit fentanyl and nitazenes) that harm communities in the United States;

Whereas the People's Republic of China leverages international institutions and regional organizations, including standards-setting bodies and technical governance frameworks, in ways that—

- (1) give an unfair advantage to Chinese firms;
  - (2) embed technologies and rules preferred by the People's Republic of China in global markets to the disadvantage of companies in the United States and allied countries seeking to compete in strategic sectors; and
  - (3) obstruct Taiwan's participation in global forums;
- and

Whereas the People's Republic of China is an authoritarian state that—

(1) restricts and suppresses human rights, religious and ethnic minority groups, civil society, and free speech and media; and

(2) engages in a sophisticated global campaign of transnational repression: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the  
2 United States should—

3           (1) address the security, economic, techno-  
4 logical, diplomatic, and strategic threats posed by  
5 the People’s Republic of China as the foremost pri-  
6 orities of United States foreign policy;

7           (2) sustain and strengthen deterrence against  
8 the People’s Republic of China and enhance the ca-  
9 pacity of the United States—

10           (A) to defend its interests;

11           (B) to support freedom of navigation; and

12           (C) to maintain peace and stability in the  
13 Indo-Pacific region, including in the Taiwan  
14 Strait and the South China Sea;

15           (3) protect United States economic interests  
16 against the predatory economic and trade practices  
17 of the People’s Republic of China, including by—

18           (A) strengthening export controls and clos-  
19 ing loopholes;

20           (B) restricting investments in strategic in-  
21 dustries in the United States;

1 (C) enforcing forced labor restrictions; and

2 (D) imposing costs to offset state-sub-  
3 sidized entities and goods;

4 (4) dominate the artificial intelligence and other  
5 foundational technologies sectors compared to the  
6 People's Republic of China and other peer and near-  
7 peer competitors;

8 (5) reaffirm the ironclad United States commit-  
9 ment to, and support for, United States treaty allies  
10 in the Indo-Pacific region, which stand at the  
11 frontlines of the People's Republic of China's ag-  
12 gression, increased defense spending to deter such  
13 aggression, and provide vital basing for United  
14 States forces, including—

15 (A) Japan, consistent with the Treaty of  
16 Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the  
17 United States of America and Japan, signed at  
18 Washington, January 19, 1960;

19 (B) South Korea, consistent with the Mu-  
20 tual Defense Treaty Between the United States  
21 and the Republic of Korea, signed at Wash-  
22 ington, October 1, 1953;

23 (C) Australia, consistent with the Security  
24 Treaty between Australia, New Zealand, and  
25 the United States of America, signed at San

1 Francisco, September, 1951, and through the  
2 partnership among Australia, the United King-  
3 dom, and United States (commonly known as  
4 “AUKUS”);

5 (D) the Philippines, consistent with the  
6 Mutual Defense Treaty between the United  
7 States and the Philippines, signed at Wash-  
8 ington, August 30, 1951; and

9 (E) trilateral cooperation between United  
10 States allies in the Indo-Pacific region, includ-  
11 ing among—

12 (i) the United States, Japan, and  
13 South Korea;

14 (ii) the United States, Japan, and the  
15 Philippines; and

16 (iii) the United States, Japan, and  
17 Australia;

18 (6) preserve peace and stability across the Tai-  
19 wan Strait and maintain the longstanding United  
20 States policy on Taiwan, guided by the Taiwan Rela-  
21 tions Act of 1979 (Public Law 96–8; 22 U.S.C.  
22 3301 et seq.), the Three Joint Communiqués be-  
23 tween the United States and the People’s Republic  
24 of China, and the Six Assurances between the  
25 United States and Taiwan;

1           (7) strengthen support for United States part-  
2           ners in the Indo-Pacific region, including partners  
3           facing military, economic, and gray-zone coercion  
4           from the People’s Republic of China, including by—

5                   (A) broadening United States engagement  
6                   with India, including through the Quadrilateral  
7                   Security Dialogue;

8                   (B) advancing United States partnerships  
9                   with countries comprising the Association of  
10                  Southeast Asian Nations; and

11                  (C) working with Pacific island countries  
12                  to support their resilience and prosperity;

13           (8) mitigate the leadership and influence of the  
14           People’s Republic of China in multilateral organiza-  
15           tions, technical bodies, and international standards-  
16           setting institutions to prevent the adoption of rules  
17           or standards that disadvantage the interests of the  
18           United States or of its partners; and

19           (9) advance the democratic norms and values  
20           that promote human rights, openness, and the flour-  
21           ishing of civil society in the Indo-Pacific region and  
22           beyond, in accordance with United States laws, such  
23           as Public Law 117–78 (commonly referred to as the  
24           “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act”) and the

- 1 Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law
- 2 115–409; 22 U.S.C. 3301 note).

