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H. CON. RES. 200

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the freedom, security, and stability of Taiwan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 15, 2009

Mr. ANDREWS submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the freedom, security, and stability of Taiwan.

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

Whereas the United States has vital security and strategic interests in the Taiwan Strait, with United States troops stationed in countries within the Taiwan Strait region;

Whereas the security of the 23,000,000 people in Taiwan is threatened by the deployment by the People's Republic of China of over 1,400 short- and medium-range ballistic missiles targeted at Taiwan;

Whereas the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China passed an anti-secession law on March 14, 2005, which was subsequently condemned by the United States House of Representatives in House Concurrent Resolution 98, passed by the House of Representatives on March 16, 2005;

Whereas such resolution states that the anti-secession law seeks “to create a legal framework for possible use of force against Taiwan” and that it constitutes “a unilateral change to the status quo in the Taiwan Strait”;

Whereas a 2009 Pentagon report on the military power of the People’s Republic of China states that “[t]he PLA’s modernization vis-à-vis Taiwan has continued over the past year, including its build-up of short-range missiles opposite the island”, and that “[i]n the near-term, China’s armed forces are rapidly developing coercive capabilities for the purpose of deterring Taiwan’s pursuit of de jure independence”;

Whereas such report also states that “[t]hese same capabilities could in the future be used to pressure Taiwan toward a settlement of the cross-Strait dispute on Beijing’s terms while simultaneously attempting to deter, delay, or deny any possible U.S. support for the island in case of conflict”;

Whereas the Director of National Intelligence, Admiral Dennis Blair, in the 2009 Annual Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, stated that “[p]reparations for a possible Taiwan conflict continue to drive the modernization goals of the People’s Liberation Army and the Chinese defense-industrial complex”;

Whereas section 2(b)(4) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(4)), which is the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations, declares that it is the policy of the United States “to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, is a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States”; and

Whereas section 2(b)(6) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(6)) declares it the policy of 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”: 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 contin-
 4 ued deployment by the People’s Republic of China of
 5 over 1,400 ballistic missiles directed toward Taiwan,
 6 which threaten security and stability in the Taiwan
 7 Strait;

8 (2) the President of the United States should
 9 seek a public and unequivocal renunciation from the
 10 leaders of the People’s Republic of China of any
 11 threat or use of force against Taiwan; and

12 (3) the future of Taiwan should be determined
 13 free from coercion by the People’s Republic of

- 1 China, peacefully, and with the express consent of
- 2 the people of Taiwan.

