

111TH CONGRESS
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H. RES. 927

Declaring that it shall continue to be the policy of the United States, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act, to make available to Taiwan such defense articles and services as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

Mr. BARTON of Texas submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Declaring that it shall continue to be the policy of the United States, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act, to make available to Taiwan such defense articles and services as may be necessary for Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

Whereas April 10, 2009, marked the 30th anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8), codifying in law the basis for continued commercial, cultural, and other relations between the United States and the Taiwan;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act, as the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations, has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Strait since its enactment in 1979, when the United

States extended diplomatic recognition to the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the Taiwan Relations Act specifies that it is United States policy to consider any non-peaceful means to determine Taiwan's future "a threat" to the peace and security of the Western Pacific and of "grave concern" to the United States, "to provide Taiwan with arms of a defensive character" and "to maintain the capacity of the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion" jeopardizing the security, or social or economic system of Taiwan's people;

Whereas section 3(a) of the Taiwan Relations Act states that "the United States will make available to Taiwan such defense articles and defense services in such quantity as may be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability";

Whereas section 3(b) of the Taiwan Relations Act stipulates that both the President and the Congress shall determine the nature and quantity of such defense articles and services "based solely" upon their judgment of the needs of Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan's 2007 defense budget included approximately \$488,000,000 to begin the process of procuring 66 new United States-origin F-16C/D fighters, pending United States price and availability data;

Whereas the Taiwanese Defense Ministry has requested and the Executive Yuan approved in August 2007 a 2008 defense budget that includes approximately \$764,000,000 for the second year's budget for F-16C/D fighters;

Whereas the 2009 Pentagon Report on the Military Power of the People's Republic of China stated that "The 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 “In 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 the report added that “These 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”; and

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 “Preparations for a possible Taiwan conflict continue to drive the modernization goals of the People’s Liberation Army and the Chinese defense-industrial complex”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) it shall continue to be the policy of the
3 United States, consistent with the Taiwan Relations
4 Act, to make available to Taiwan such defense arti-
5 cles and services as may be necessary for Taiwan to
6 maintain a sufficient self-defense capability; and

7 (2) the United States should determine the na-
8 ture and quantity of such defense articles and serv-

- 1 ices “based solely” upon the legitimate defense needs
- 2 of Taiwan.

