

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3397

To encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan at all levels,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. GARDNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan
at all levels, 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 Travel Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress makes the following findings:

7 (1) The Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301
8 et seq.), enacted in 1979, has continued for 37 years
9 to be the cornerstone of relations between the
10 United States and Taiwan and has served as an an-

1 chor for peace and security in the Western Pacific
2 area.

3 (2) The Taiwan Relations Act declares that
4 peace and stability in the Western Pacific area are
5 in the political, security, and economic interests of
6 the United States and are matters of international
7 concern.

8 (3) The United States considers any effort to
9 determine the future of Taiwan by other than peace-
10 ful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a
11 threat to the peace and security of the Western Pa-
12 cific and of grave concern to the United States.

13 (4) Taiwan has succeeded in a momentous tran-
14 sition to democracy beginning in the late 1980s and
15 has been a beacon of democratic practices in Asia,
16 and Taiwan's democratic achievements inspire many
17 countries and people in the region.

18 (5) Visits to a country by United States cabinet
19 members and other high-ranking officials are an in-
20 dicator of the breadth and depth of ties between the
21 United States and that country.

22 (6) Since the enactment of the Taiwan Rela-
23 tions Act, relations between the United States and
24 Taiwan have suffered from a lack of communication

1 due to the self-imposed restrictions that the United
2 States maintains on high-level visits with Taiwan.

3 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS; STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that—

6 (1) the United States Government should en-
7 courage visits between the United States and Tai-
8 wan at all levels; and

9 (2) the United States Government must not
10 place any restrictions on the travel of officials at any
11 level of the United States Government to Taiwan to
12 meet their Taiwanese counterparts or on the travel
13 of high-level officials of Taiwan to enter the United
14 States to meet with officials of the United States.

15 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It should be the policy
16 of the United States—

17 (1) to allow officials at all levels of the United
18 States Government, including cabinet-level national
19 security officials, general officers, and other execu-
20 tive branch officials, to travel to Taiwan to meet
21 their Taiwanese counterparts;

22 (2) to allow high-level officials of Taiwan to
23 enter the United States, under conditions which
24 demonstrate appropriate respect for the dignity of
25 such officials, and to meet with officials of the

1 United States, including officials from the Depart-
2 ment of State and the Department of Defense and
3 other cabinet agencies; and
4 (3) to permit the Taipei Economic and Cultural
5 Representative Office, and any other instrumentality
6 established by Taiwan, to conduct business in the
7 United States, including activities that involve par-
8 ticipation by Members of Congress, officials of Fed-
9 eral, State, or local governments of the United
10 States, or any high-level official of Taiwan.

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