

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1051

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 4, 2017

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. PETERS) 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 insufficient high-level
25 communication due to the self-imposed restrictions

1 that the United States maintains on high-level visits
2 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 the United States Government should not place
6 any restrictions on the travel of officials at any level of
7 the United States Government to Taiwan to meet their
8 Taiwanese counterparts or on the travel of high-level offi-
9 cials of Taiwan to enter the United States to meet with
10 officials of the United States.

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

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

18 (2) to allow high-level officials of Taiwan to
19 enter the United States, under conditions that dem-
20 onstrate appropriate respect for the dignity of such
21 officials, and to meet with officials of the United
22 States, including officials from the Department of
23 State and the Department of Defense and other cab-
24 inet agencies; and

1 (3) to encourage the Taipei Economic and Cul-
2 tural Representative Office, and any other instru-
3 mentality established by Taiwan, to conduct business
4 in the United States, including activities that involve
5 participation by Members of Congress, officials of
6 Federal, State, or local governments of the United
7 States, or any high-level official of Taiwan.

8 **SEC. 4. AUTHORITY.**

9 Officials at all levels of the United States Govern-
10 ment, including cabinet-level national security officials,
11 general officers, and other executive branch officials, are
12 hereby authorized to travel to Taiwan to meet their Tai-
13 wanese counterparts.

14 **SEC. 5. SEMIANNUAL REPORTS.**

15 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Sec-
17 retary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign
18 Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign
19 Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on travel
20 by United States executive branch officials to Taiwan.

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