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H. CON. RES. 124

Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should resume normal diplomatic relations with Taiwan, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2018

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

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should resume normal diplomatic relations with Taiwan, and for other purposes.

Whereas the people of Taiwan have established a vibrant and pluralistic democracy;

Whereas the people of Taiwan have conducted six successful presidential elections, successive elections for members of their national legislature, numerous local elections, and three national referendums;

Whereas Taiwan has never been under the jurisdiction of the Communist government in Beijing, which continues to illegitimately claim sovereignty over Taiwan and its 23,500,000 citizens;

Whereas the Shanghai Communique, which maintains that there is “One China” and that “Taiwan is part of China”, was established without the consultation of Congress or the people of Taiwan;

Whereas Communist China has since used the “One China Policy” to block Taiwan’s membership and full participation in international organizations and events, ranging from the United Nations and the World Health Organization to the Olympics;

Whereas the “One China Policy” is effectively obsolete, and does not reflect the obvious reality that Taiwan has been an independent and sovereign country for over half a century;

Whereas Taiwan maintains diplomatic, cultural, and economic relations with several countries around the world;

Whereas Taiwan and the United States maintained formal diplomatic relations until 1979;

Whereas today, the United States maintains normal diplomatic relations with all countries in the world, except for Syria, North Korea, Iran, Bhutan, and Taiwan;

Whereas former President Jimmy Carter severed diplomatic ties with Taiwan in 1979 and terminated the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and Taiwan without consulting or seeking the approval of Congress;

Whereas Congress responded later that year by adopting the Taiwan Relations Act, codifying into law the basis for continued friendly relations between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas former President Ronald Reagan issued the “Six Assurances” to Taiwan in July 1982, including the as-

assurance that “[t]he United States would not formally recognize Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan”;

Whereas both the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8, 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.) and the Six Assurances form the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations; and

Whereas Taiwan has been a steadfast ally of the United States and a responsible member of the world community: 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) the President should abandon the fun-
4 damentally flawed “One China Policy” in favor of a
5 more realistic “One China, One Taiwan Policy” that
6 recognizes Taiwan as a sovereign and independent
7 country, separate from the Communist regime in
8 China;

9 (2) the President should begin the process of
10 resuming normal diplomatic relations with Taiwan;
11 and

12 (3) the President, the Permanent Representa-
13 tive of the United States to the United Nations, and
14 other relevant United States officials should aggres-
15 sively support Taiwan’s full participation in the
16 United Nations and any other international organi-
17 zation of which the United States is a member, and

- 1 for which statehood is a requirement for member-
- 2 ship.

