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H. CON. RES. 300

Affirming United States commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 16, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Affirming United States commitments under the Taiwan Relations Act.

Whereas at no time since the establishment of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, has Taiwan been under the control of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas the United States began its long, peaceful, friendly relationship with Taiwan in 1949;

Whereas since the enactment in 1979 of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8; 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.), the policy of the United States has been based on the expectation that the future relationship between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan would be determined by peaceful means;

Whereas in 1982, during negotiations for the United States-China Communique on Arms Sales to Taiwan, the Tai-

wan Government presented the United States with 6 points it proposed that the United States use as guidelines in conducting United States-Taiwan relations;

Whereas, according to former Ambassador John Holdridge, the United States agreed to these 6 points, informed Taiwan of this agreement, and, in late July 1982, informed Congress of the agreement;

Whereas these 6 points are as follows:

(1) the United States would not set a date for termination of arms sales to Taiwan;

(2) the United States would not alter the terms of the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8; 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.);

(3) the United States would not consult with the People’s Republic of China in advance before making decisions about United States arms sales to Taiwan;

(4) the United States would not mediate between Taiwan and the People’s Republic of China;

(5) the United States would not alter its position concerning the sovereignty of Taiwan—which was, that the question of sovereignty was to be decided peacefully by the Chinese themselves—and would not pressure Taiwan to enter into negotiations with the People’s Republic of China; and

(6) the United States would not formally recognize Chinese sovereignty over Taiwan;

Whereas in March 1996, the People’s Republic of China held provocative military maneuvers, including missile launch exercises in the Taiwan Strait, in an attempt to intimidate the people of Taiwan during their historic, free and democratic presidential election;

Whereas officials of the People's Republic of China refuse to renounce the use of force against democratic Taiwan;

Whereas Taiwan has achieved significant political and economic strength as one of the world's premier democracies and as the 19th largest economy in the world;

Whereas Taiwan is the seventh largest trading partner of the United States and imports more than twice as much annually from the United States as does the People's Republic of China; and

Whereas no treaties exist between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan that determine the future status of Taiwan: Now therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) affirms its longstanding commitment to
4 Taiwan and the people of Taiwan in accordance with
5 the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8; 22
6 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.);

7 (2) affirms its expectation, consistent with the
8 Taiwan Relations Act, that the future of Taiwan will
9 be determined by peaceful means, and considers any
10 effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other
11 than peaceful means a threat to the peace and secu-
12 rity of the Western Pacific and of grave concern to
13 the United States;

14 (3) affirms its commitment, consistent with the
15 Taiwan Relations Act, to make available to Taiwan

1 such defense articles and defense services in such
2 quantities as may be necessary to enable Taiwan to
3 maintain a sufficient self-defense capability;

4 (4) affirms its commitment, consistent with the
5 Taiwan Relations Act, that only the President and
6 Congress shall determine the nature and quantity of
7 defense articles and services for Taiwan based solely
8 upon their judgment of the needs of Taiwan; and

9 (5) urges the President of the United States to
10 seek a public renunciation by the People's Republic
11 of China of any use of force, or threat to use force,
12 against democratic Taiwan.

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