

Calendar No. 492

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2092

To address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KYL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BOND, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. FEINGOLD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

APRIL 29, 2004

Reported by Mr. LUGAR, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

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. CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN**
4 **IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
6 ings:

1 (1) Good health is important to every citizen of
2 the world and access to the highest standards of
3 health information and services is necessary to im-
4 prove the public health.

5 (2) Direct and unobstructed participation in
6 international health cooperation forums and pro-
7 grams is beneficial for all parts of the world, espe-
8 cially today with the great potential for the cross-
9 border spread of various infectious diseases such as
10 the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuber-
11 culosis, and malaria.

12 (3) Taiwan's population of 23,500,000 people is
13 greater than that of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the member states already
14 in the World Health Organization (WHO).

15 (4) Taiwan's achievements in the field of health
16 are substantial, including—

17 (A) attaining—

18 (i) 1 of the highest life expectancy lev-
19 els in Asia; and

20 (ii) maternal and infant mortality
21 rates comparable to those of western coun-
22 tries;

23 (B) eradicating such infectious diseases as
24 cholera, smallpox, the plague, and polio; and

1 (C) providing children with hepatitis B
2 vaccinations.

3 (5) The United States Centers for Disease Con-
4 trol and Prevention and its counterpart agencies in
5 Taiwan have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide
6 range of public health issues.

7 (6) In recent years Taiwan has expressed a will-
8 ingness to assist financially and technically in inter-
9 national aid and health activities supported by the
10 WHO.

11 (7) On January 14, 2001, an earthquake, reg-
12 istering between 7.6 and 7.9 on the Richter scale,
13 struck El Salvador. In response, the Taiwanese Gov-
14 ernment sent 2 rescue teams, consisting of 90 indi-
15 viduals specializing in firefighting, medicine, and
16 civil engineering. The Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign
17 Affairs also donated \$200,000 in relief aid to the
18 Salvadoran Government.

19 (8) The World Health Assembly has allowed ob-
20 servers to participate in the activities of the organi-
21 zation, including the Palestine Liberation Organiza-
22 tion in 1974, the Order of Malta, and the Holy See
23 in the early 1950's.

24 (9) The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Pol-
25 icy Review, declared its intention to support Tai-

1 wan's participation in appropriate international or-
2 ganizations.

3 (10) Public Law 106-137 required the Sec-
4 retary of State to submit a report to Congress on ef-
5 forts by the executive branch to support Taiwan's
6 participation in international organizations, in par-
7 ticular the WHO.

8 (11) In light of all benefits that Taiwan's par-
9 ticipation in the WHO can bring to the state of
10 health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and
11 globally, Taiwan and its 23,500,000 people should
12 have appropriate and meaningful participation in the
13 WHO.

14 (12) On May 11, 2001, President Bush stated
15 in a letter to Senator Murkowski that the United
16 States "should find opportunities for Taiwan's voice
17 to be heard in international organizations in order to
18 make a contribution, even if membership is not pos-
19 sible", further stating that the administration "has
20 focused on finding concrete ways for Taiwan to ben-
21 efit and contribute to the WHO".

22 (13) In his speech made in the World Medical
23 Association on May 14, 2002, Secretary of Health
24 and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, announced
25 "America's work for a healthy world cuts across po-

1 litical lines. That is why my government supports
2 Taiwan's efforts to gain observership status at the
3 World Health Assembly. We know this is a con-
4 troversial issue, but we do not shrink from taking a
5 public stance on it. The people of Taiwan deserve
6 the same level of public health as citizens of every
7 nation on earth, and we support them in their ef-
8 forts to achieve it".

9 (14) The Government of the Republic of China
10 on Taiwan, in response to an appeal from the
11 United Nations and the United States for resources
12 to control the spread of HIV/AIDS, donated
13 \$1,000,000 to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tu-
14 bereculosis and Malaria in December 2002.

15 (15) In 2003, the outbreak of Severe Acute
16 Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) caused 73 deaths in
17 Taiwan.

18 (16) Avian influenza, commonly known as bird
19 flu, has reemerged in Asia with strains of the influ-
20 enza reported by the People's Republic of China,
21 Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, South
22 Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos.

23 (17) The SARS and avian influenza outbreaks
24 illustrate that disease knows no boundaries and em-

1 phasize the importance of allowing all people access
2 to the WHO.

3 (18) As the pace of globalization quickens and
4 the spread of infectious disease accelerates, it is cru-
5 cial that all people, including the people of Taiwan,
6 be given the opportunity to participate in inter-
7 national health organizations such as the WHO.

8 (19) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
9 ices acknowledged during the 2003 World Health
10 Assembly meeting that “[t]he need for effective pub-
11 lic health exists among all peoples”.

12 (b) PLAN.—The Secretary of State is authorized to—

13 (1) initiate a United States plan to endorse and
14 obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual
15 week-long summit of the World Health Assembly in
16 May 2004 in Geneva, Switzerland;

17 (2) instruct the United States delegation to the
18 World Health Assembly in Geneva to implement that
19 plan; and

20 (3) introduce a resolution in support of observer
21 status for Taiwan at the summit of the World
22 Health Assembly.

23 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 14 days after the date
24 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall sub-
25 mit a report to Congress in unclassified form describing

1 the action taken to carry out the plan described in sub-
2 section (b).

3 **SECTION 1. CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN**

4 **IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.**

5 (a) *FINDINGS.*—Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) *Good health is important to every citizen of*
7 *the world and access to the highest standards of health*
8 *information and services is necessary to improve the*
9 *public health.*

10 (2) *Direct and unobstructed participation in*
11 *international health cooperation forums and pro-*
12 *grams is beneficial for all parts of the world, espe-*
13 *cially today with the great potential for the cross-bor-*
14 *der spread of various infectious diseases such as the*
15 *human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis,*
16 *and malaria.*

17 (3) *Taiwan's population of 23,500,000 people is*
18 *greater than that of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the member states already*
19 *in the World Health Organization (WHO).*

20 (4) *Taiwan's achievements in the field of health*
21 *are substantial, including—*

22 (A) *attaining—*

23 (i) *1 of the highest life expectancy lev-*
24 *els in Asia; and*

1 (ii) maternal and infant mortality
2 rates comparable to those of western coun-
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4 (B) eradicating such infectious diseases as
5 cholera, smallpox, the plague, and polio; and

6 (C) providing children with hepatitis B
7 vaccinations.

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9 *trol and Prevention and its counterpart agencies in*
10 *Taiwan have enjoyed close collaboration on a wide*
11 *range of public health issues.*

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13 *ingness to assist financially and technically in inter-*
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8 *(10) Public Law 106–137 required the Secretary*
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10 *the executive branch to support Taiwan's participa-*
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14 *ticipation in the WHO can bring to the state of*
15 *health not only in Taiwan, but also regionally and*
16 *globally, Taiwan and its 23,500,000 people should*
17 *have appropriate and meaningful participation in*
18 *the WHO.*

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20 *a letter to Senator Murkowski that the United States*
21 *“should find opportunities for Taiwan's voice to be*
22 *heard in international organizations in order to make*
23 *a contribution, even if membership is not possible”,*
24 *further stating that the administration “has focused*

1 *on finding concrete ways for Taiwan to benefit and*
2 *contribute to the WHO”.*

3 (13) *In his speech made in the World Medical*
4 *Association on May 14, 2002, Secretary of Health*
5 *and Human Services Tommy Thompson announced*
6 *“America’s work for a healthy world cuts across polit-*
7 *ical lines. That is why my government supports Tai-*
8 *wan’s efforts to gain observership status at the World*
9 *Health Assembly. We know this is a controversial*
10 *issue, but we do not shrink from taking a public*
11 *stance on it. The people of Taiwan deserve the same*
12 *level of public health as citizens of every nation on*
13 *earth, and we support them in their efforts to achieve*
14 *it”.*

15 (14) *The Government of the Republic of China*
16 *on Taiwan, in response to an appeal from the United*
17 *Nations and the United States for resources to control*
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1 *enza reported by the People’s Republic of China,*
2 *Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea,*
3 *Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, and Laos.*

4 (17) *The SARS and avian influenza outbreaks*
5 *illustrate that disease knows no boundaries and em-*
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13 (19) *The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-*
14 *ices acknowledged during the 2003 World Health As-*
15 *sembly meeting that “[t]he need for effective public*
16 *health exists among all peoples”.*

17 (b) *PLAN.—The Secretary of State is authorized to—*

18 (1) *initiate a United States plan to endorse and*
19 *obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual week-*
20 *long summit of the World Health Assembly each year*
21 *in Geneva, Switzerland;*

22 (2) *instruct the United States delegation to the*
23 *World Health Assembly in Geneva to implement that*
24 *plan; and*

1 (3) *introduce a resolution in support of observer*
2 *status for Taiwan at the summit of the World Health*
3 *Assembly.*

4 (c) *REPORT CONCERNING OBSERVER STATUS FOR TAI-*
5 *WAN AT THE SUMMIT OF THE WORLD HEALTH ASSEM-*
6 *BLY.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-*
7 *ment of this Act, and not later than April 1 of each year*
8 *thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to*
9 *the Congress, in unclassified form, describing the United*
10 *States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Tai-*
11 *wan at the annual week-long summit of the World Health*
12 *Assembly (WHA) held by the World Health Organization*
13 *(WHO) in May of each year in Geneva, Switzerland. Each*
14 *report shall include the following:*

15 (1) *An account of the efforts the Secretary of*
16 *State has made, following the last meeting of the*
17 *World Health Assembly, to encourage WHO member*
18 *states to promote Taiwan's bid to obtain observer sta-*
19 *tus.*

20 (2) *The steps the Secretary of State will take to*
21 *endorse and obtain observer status at the next annual*
22 *meeting of the World Health Assembly in Geneva,*
23 *Switzerland.*

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