

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 132

Relating to the Republic of China (Taiwan's) participation in the United Nations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 29, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON (for himself and Mr. LANTOS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Relating to the Republic of China (Taiwan's) participation in the United Nations.

Whereas the Republic of China was the first signatory to the Charter of the United Nations in 1945 and remained an active member of that world body until 1971;

Whereas China was divided in 1949, and the Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "Taiwan") and the People's Republic of China (hereinafter cited as "Mainland China") have exercised exclusive jurisdiction over their respective areas since then;

Whereas Taiwan has the 19th largest gross national product in the world, a strong and vibrant economy, and one of the largest foreign exchange reserves of any nation;

Whereas Taiwan has dramatically improved its record on human rights and routinely holds free and fair elections in a multiparty system, as evidenced most recently by the March 1996 presidential election and the December 1995 parliamentary elections;

Whereas the 21 million people in Taiwan have not been represented in the United Nations since 1971 and their human rights as citizens of the world have therefore been severely abridged;

Whereas Taiwan has in recent years repeatedly expressed its strong desire to participate in the United Nations;

Whereas Taiwan has much to contribute to the work and funding of the United Nations;

Whereas Taiwan has demonstrated its commitment to the world community by responding to international disasters and crises such as environmental destruction in the Persian Gulf and famine in Rwanda by providing financial donations, medical assistance, and other forms of aid;

Whereas the world community has reacted positively to Taiwan's desire for international participation, as shown by Taiwan's continued membership in the Asian Development Bank, the admission of Taiwan into the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group as a full member, and the accession of Taiwan as an observer at the World Trade Organization as the first step toward becoming a contracting party to that organization;

Whereas the United States has supported Taiwan's participation in these bodies and indicated, in its policy review of September 1994, a stronger and more active policy of support for Taiwan's participation in other international organizations;

Whereas in 1996 the European Parliament passed, and the United States House of Representatives endorsed, a resolution urging support for Taiwan’s attempts to secure better representation in international organizations;

Whereas Taiwan has repeatedly stated that its participation in international organizations is one of parallel representation without prejudice to the current status of Mainland China in the international community and does not represent a challenge to that status;

Whereas the United Nations and other international organizations have established precedents concerning parallel representation, such as the cases of South Korea and North Korea and the former two Germanies;

Whereas the decision of the United States to establish diplomatic relations with Mainland China, as expressed in the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8), is based “upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means”; and

Whereas Taiwan’s participation in international organizations would not prevent or imperil the eventual resolution of disputes between Taiwan and Mainland China any more than the participation in international organizations by the former West Germany and the former East Germany prevented the eventual settlement of Germany’s national status by peaceful and democratic means: Now, therefore, be it

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

1 (1) Taiwan deserves full participation, including
2 a seat, in the United Nations and its related agen-
3 cies; and

4 (2) the Government of the United States should
5 immediately encourage the United Nations to take
6 action by considering the unique situation of Taiwan
7 in the international community and adopting a com-
8 prehensive solution to accommodate Taiwan in the
9 United Nations and its related agencies.

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