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H. CON. RES. 39

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the freedom, security, and stability of Taiwan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 13, 2011

Mr. ANDREWS (for himself and Mr. GARRETT) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the freedom, security, and stability of Taiwan.

Whereas for over half a century a close relationship has existed between the United States and Taiwan, and the relationship has been of enormous economic, cultural, and strategic advantage to both countries, the region and the world;

Whereas the United States has vital security and strategic interests in the Taiwan Strait, with United States Armed Forces stationed in countries within the Taiwan Strait region;

Whereas the security of the 23,000,000 people in Taiwan is threatened by the deployment by the Government of the People's Republic of China of over 1,400 short- and medium-range ballistic missiles targeted at Taiwan;

Whereas the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China passed an anti-secession law on March 14, 2005, which was subsequently condemned by the United States House of Representatives in House Concurrent Resolution 98 (109th Congress), passed by the House of Representatives on March 16, 2005;

Whereas House Concurrent Resolution 98 (109th Congress) states that the anti-secession law seeks “to create a legal framework for possible use of force against Taiwan” and that it constitutes “a unilateral change to the status quo in the Taiwan Strait”;

Whereas a 2009 Department of Defense report on the military power of the Government of the People’s Republic of China states that “[t]he PLA’s modernization vis-a-vis Taiwan has continued over the past year, including its build-up of short-range missiles opposite the island”, and that “[i]n the near-term, China’s armed forces are rapidly developing coercive capabilities for the purpose of deterring Taiwan’s pursuit of de jure independence”;

Whereas the report also states that “[t]hese same capabilities could in the future be used to pressure Taiwan toward a settlement of the cross-Strait dispute on Beijing’s terms while simultaneously attempting to deter, delay, or deny any possible U.S. support for the island in case of conflict”;

Whereas the Director of National Intelligence, Admiral Dennis Blair, in the 2009 Annual Threat Assessment of the Intelligence Community for the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, stated that “[p]reparations for a possible Taiwan conflict continue to drive the modernization goals of the People’s Liberation Army and the Chinese defense-industrial complex”;

Whereas on January 21, 2010, the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) completed a report on the current condition of the air force of the Government of Taiwan and concludes that, “although Taiwan has nearly 400 combat aircraft in service, far fewer of these are operationally capable”;

Whereas on August 16, 2010, the U.S. Department of Defense issued a report titled “Military and Security Developments involving the People’s Republic of China”, in which it noted that in spite of the ongoing rapprochement, the PRC is continuing its military buildup and missile deployment aimed at Taiwan, leading to a further deterioration of the military balance across the Taiwan Strait;

Whereas section 2(b)(4) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(4)), which is the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations, declares that it is the policy of the United States “to consider any effort to determine the future of Taiwan by other than peaceful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a threat to the peace and security of the Western Pacific area and of grave concern to the United States”; and

Whereas section 2(b)(6) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 3301(b)(6)) declares it the policy of the United States “to maintain the capacity of the United States to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people on Taiwan”: Now, therefore, be it

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

1 (1) grave concerns exist concerning the contin-
2 ued deployment by the Government of the People's
3 Republic of China of over 1,400 ballistic missiles di-
4 rected toward Taiwan, which threaten security and
5 stability in the Taiwan Strait;

6 (2) the President should seek a public and un-
7 equivocal renunciation from the leaders of the Peo-
8 ple's Republic of China of any threat or use of force
9 against Taiwan and the region;

10 (3) the future of Taiwan should be determined
11 peacefully by the people of Taiwan and free from co-
12 ercion by the Government of the People's Republic
13 of China; and

14 (4) the President should take immediate steps
15 to redress the deteriorating balance of airpower
16 noted by the 2010 DOD's annual report on China's
17 military power, and move forward expeditiously with
18 the sale to Taiwan of new F-16 C/D aircraft and
19 upgrades of the existing F-16 A/B fleet.

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