

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3936

To require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to seek to engage the authorities of Taiwan with respect to expanding cooperation on civilian space activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2024

Mr. SCHMITT (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to seek to engage the authorities of Taiwan with respect to expanding cooperation on civilian space activities, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Taiwan and American
5 Space Assistance Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. SPACE COOPERATION WITH TAIWAN.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
4 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, in co-
5 ordination with the Secretary of Commerce, acting
6 through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and
7 Atmospheric Administration, and the Secretary of State,
8 may seek to engage the authorities of Taiwan with respect
9 to expanding cooperation between the United States and
10 such authorities on civilian space activities.

11 (b) COOPERATION EFFORTS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—In seeking to expand co-
13 operation under subsection (a), the Administrator of
14 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
15 and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and
16 Atmospheric Administration may carry out efforts to
17 identify and pursue space exploration, space applica-
18 tions, and science initiatives in areas of mutual ben-
19 efit to the United States and the authorities of Tai-
20 wan, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (22
21 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.) and applicable export regula-
22 tions, including by—

23 (A) cooperating on satellite programs,
24 space exploration programs, and atmospheric
25 and weather programs; and

26 (B) conducting—

1 (i) personnel exchanges of employees
2 of the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
3 ministration and the National Oceanic and
4 Atmospheric Administration with employ-
5 ees of the Taiwan Space Agency; and

6 (ii) activities of mutual benefit relat-
7 ing to commercial space and atmospheric
8 and weather technology and services.

9 (2) PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE AND PROPRI-
10 ETARY INFORMATION AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF
11 THE UNITED STATES.—In carrying out efforts and
12 activities under paragraph (1), the Administrator of
13 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
14 and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and
15 Atmospheric Administration shall take all appro-
16 priate measures to protect sensitive information, in-
17 tellectual property, trade secrets, and the economic
18 interests of the United States.

19 (c) REPORT.—

20 (1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 270 days
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-
22 nually thereafter for five years, the Administrator of
23 the National Aeronautics and Space Administration,
24 the Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-
25 mospheric Administration, and the Secretary of

1 State shall jointly submit to the appropriate commit-
2 tees of Congress a report on the implementation of
3 this section.

4 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by para-
5 graph (1) shall include the following:

6 (A) A description of the cooperation efforts
7 and activities carried out under subsection
8 (b)(1).

9 (B) An identification of any challenge or
10 resource gap that needs to be addressed to ex-
11 pand cooperation between the United States
12 and the authorities of Taiwan on civilian space
13 activities.

14 (C) Any other matter the Administrator of
15 the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
16 tration, the Administrator of the National Oce-
17 anic and Atmospheric Administration, and the
18 Secretary of State consider relevant.

19 (d) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
20 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate commit-
21 tees of Congress” means—

22 (1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
23 Transportation and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
24 tions of the Senate; and

1 (2) the Committee on Science, Space, and
2 Technology and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of
3 the House of Representatives.

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