

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 535

To encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan at all levels,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2017

Mr. CHABOT (for himself, Mr. ROYCE of California, and Mr. SHERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To encourage visits between the United States and Taiwan
at all levels, 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 Travel Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6 Congress finds the following:

7 (1) The Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301
8 et seq.), enacted in 1979, has continued for 37 years
9 to be a cornerstone of relations between the United

1 States and Taiwan and has served as an anchor for
2 peace and security in the Western Pacific area.

3 (2) The Taiwan Relations Act declares that
4 peace and stability in the Western Pacific area are
5 in the political, security, and economic interests of
6 the United States and are matters of international
7 concern.

8 (3) The United States considers any effort to
9 determine the future of Taiwan by other than peace-
10 ful means, including by boycotts or embargoes, a
11 threat to the peace and security of the Western Pa-
12 cific area and of grave concern to the United States.

13 (4) Taiwan has succeeded in a momentous tran-
14 sition to democracy beginning in the late 1980s and
15 has been a beacon of democracy in Asia, and Tai-
16 wan's democratic achievements inspire many coun-
17 tries and people in the region.

18 (5) Visits to a country by United States cabinet
19 members and other high-ranking officials are an in-
20 dicator of the breadth and depth of ties between the
21 United States and such country.

22 (6) Since the enactment of the Taiwan Rela-
23 tions Act, relations between the United States and
24 Taiwan have suffered from insufficient high-level
25 communication due to the self-imposed restrictions

1 that the United States maintains on high-level visits
2 with Taiwan.

3 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS; STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that the United States Government should encour-
6 age visits between officials from the United States and
7 Taiwan at all levels.

8 (b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It should be the policy
9 of the United States to—

10 (1) allow officials at all levels of the United
11 States Government, including cabinet-level national
12 security officials, general officers, and other execu-
13 tive branch officials, to travel to Taiwan to meet
14 their Taiwanese counterparts;

15 (2) allow high-level officials of Taiwan to enter
16 the United States, under conditions which dem-
17 onstrate appropriate respect for the dignity of such
18 officials, and to meet with officials of the United
19 States, including officials from the Department of
20 State and the Department of Defense and other cab-
21 inet agencies; and

22 (3) encourage the Taipei Economic and Cul-
23 tural Representative Office, and any other instru-
24 mentality established by Taiwan, to conduct business
25 in the United States, including activities which in-

- 1 involve participation by Members of Congress, officials
- 2 of Federal, State, or local governments of the United
- 3 States, or any high-level official of Taiwan.

