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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0605

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION
AND CITIZENSHIP
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMMERCIAL
AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW - **RANKING MEMBER**

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIA, THE PACIFIC,
AND NONPROLIFERATION

November 17, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

In response to recent military escalations from the Chinese government toward Taiwan, your administration reiterated America's support for Taiwan's right to self-determination. Additionally, you have reaffirmed the United States' commitment to defending the island from violent or coercive efforts to subvert that right. While some of the statements issued by your administration related to Taiwan have been contradictory, I am pleased to see your administration approaching this issue from a position of strength.

However, the United States must do more to concretely demonstrate this commitment. In light of the recent meeting of the U.S.-Taiwan Working Group to discuss Taiwan's ongoing exclusion from international organizations, I write to urge you to employ the full diplomatic strength of the United States to restore Taiwan's ability to participate in international organizations.

International organizations continued to welcome Taiwan's participation in their meetings for years after the United States normalized relations with China. However, China has aggressively campaigned to curtail this access, and today, Taiwan is banned from participation in every prominent international body. Regardless of the Chinese government's claims over the territory, the Taiwanese people have and continue to reject these assertions and do not recognize China as their representative at meetings of the UN and other international organizations. The communist government of China does not and has never governed Taiwan. The island's continued exile from these bodies has left its more than 23 million citizens without representation at these meetings.

Despite this, Taiwan continues its significant contributions to countries around the world. For example, at the beginning of the pandemic – as the Chinese government was focused on covering up its role in and spreading false information about the spread of COVID-19 – Taiwan donated millions of masks and other PPE to countries around the world to help combat the spread of the virus. Taiwan has modelled multilateralism, democracy, and faithful engagement with the world, even as it has faced immense hostility from China and other countries.

While I am encouraged by your administration's strong rhetoric supporting Taiwan, I urge you to take concrete steps to demonstrate the United States' firm position of deterring the Chinese government from attempting to unify the island to China through force. Specifically, I hope you will strongly consider the following:

1. Invite President Tsai Ing-Wen to meet with you at the White House and endeavor to reciprocally visit Taiwan;
2. Direct the United States Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield to vote in favor of Taiwan's involvement in the UN, as well as to coordinate with other nations to ensure Taiwan's ability to participate in meetings of the UN and other international organizations;
3. Coordinate with U.S. allies – personally, as well as through the Department of State – to expand diplomatic and economic support for Taiwan, including supporting its participation in international organizations; and
4. Apply pressure on the UN and member states thereof to admit Taiwan as an observer, including.

As the Chinese government persists in its expansionist approach toward international affairs and continues to undermine rules-based diplomacy and international engagement, the United States bears a responsibility to deter these malicious behaviors. I appreciate your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Buck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ken" and last name "Buck" clearly distinguishable.

Ken Buck
Member of Congress