

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To improve defense cooperation between the United States and Taiwan,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. SCOTT of Florida introduced the following bill; which was read twice and  
referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To improve defense cooperation between the United States  
and Taiwan, 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 PLUS Act”.

5       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

6       Congress finds the following:

7               (1) Taiwan is the 7th largest trading partner in  
8       goods with the United States.

9               (2) Taiwan is recognized by 12 countries as an  
10      independent state, and it is presently treated by the

1 United States as a major non-NATO ally for pur-  
2 poses of the transfer or possible transfer of defense  
3 articles or defense services under section 1206 of the  
4 Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year  
5 2003 (Public Law 107–228; 22 U.S.C. 2321k note).

6 (3) The unclassified summary of the 2018 Na-  
7 tional Defense Strategy notably prioritized United  
8 States efforts to protect America’s allies and part-  
9 ners, stating that United States defense objectives  
10 include “defending allies from military aggression,  
11 and bolstering partners against coercion, and fairly  
12 sharing responsibilities for common defense”.

13 (4) The Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–  
14 8; 22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.) states that “the United  
15 States will make available to Taiwan such defense  
16 articles and defense services in such quantity as may  
17 be necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a suffi-  
18 cient self-defense capability”.

19 (5) Consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act,  
20 the United States Congress has for more than four  
21 decades approved numerous defense articles and de-  
22 fense services for Taiwan’s self-defense, including,  
23 since 2017, High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems  
24 (HIMARS), F–16 C/D fighter jets, M142 launchers,  
25 MK 48 heavyweight torpedoes, Harpoon Coastal De-

1       fense Systems, Stinger man-portable air defense sys-  
2       tems, M109A6 Paladin howitzers, MS-110 Airborne  
3       Reconnaissance Systems, Sniper Advanced Tar-  
4       geting Pods, and Field Information Communications  
5       Systems.

6               (6) Defense Security Cooperation Agency  
7       (DSCA) data indicates that Taiwan was the United  
8       States' largest Foreign Military Sales (FMS) cus-  
9       tomer in fiscal year 2020.

10              (7) DSCA data also indicates that from fiscal  
11       years 1950 through 2020, Taiwan was the United  
12       States' third-largest Foreign Military Sales cus-  
13       tomer, tied with Japan.

14              (8) Since 2010, the Department of State has  
15       notified Congress of over \$41,000,000,000 in FMS  
16       to Taiwan, and over \$56,000,000,000 in FMS to  
17       Taiwan since 2001.

18              (9) The Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 (sub-  
19       title B of title III of division FF of Public Law 116-  
20       260), states, "the United States should conduct reg-  
21       ular sales and transfers of defense articles to Tai-  
22       wan in order to enhance its self-defense capabilities,  
23       particularly its efforts to develop and integrate  
24       asymmetric capabilities, including undersea warfare  
25       and air defense capabilities, into its military forces".

1           (10) Subparagraph (A) of section 1260(b)(1) of  
2           the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
3           Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283) states, “[the  
4           United States should continue] supporting acqui-  
5           sition by Taiwan of defense articles and services  
6           through foreign military sales, direct commercial  
7           sales, and industrial cooperation, with an emphasis  
8           on capabilities that support the asymmetric defense  
9           strategy of Taiwan, including anti-ship, coastal de-  
10          fense, anti-armor, air defense, undersea warfare, ad-  
11          vanced command, control, communications, com-  
12          puters, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance,  
13          and resilient command and control capabilities.”.

14          (11) Subparagraph (B) of section 1260(b)(1) of  
15          such Act further states that the United States  
16          should continue supporting the development of de-  
17          fense forces necessary for Taiwan to maintain a suf-  
18          ficient self-defense capability by “ensuring timely re-  
19          view of an response to response to requests of Tai-  
20          wan for defense articles and services”.

21          (12) In its 2019 Recommendations to Congress,  
22          the nonpartisan U.S.-China Economic and Security  
23          Commission issued the following judgement: “Con-  
24          gress [should] raise the threshold of congressional  
25          notification on sales of defense articles and services

1 to Taiwan to the highest tier set to U.S. allies and  
2 partners. Congress [should] also terminate any re-  
3 quirement to provide prior notification of mainte-  
4 nance and sustainment of military equipment and  
5 capabilities previously sold to Taiwan.”. The Com-  
6 mission repeated this recommendation in its 2024  
7 annual report.

8 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

9 It is the sense of Congress that—

10 (1) enhanced support for defense cooperation  
11 with Taiwan is critical to the national security of the  
12 United States, including through designation of Tai-  
13 wan as a member of the colloquially titled “NATO  
14 Plus” community of states, which presently includes  
15 Japan, Australia, the Republic of Korea, Israel, and  
16 New Zealand, with respect to consideration by Con-  
17 gress of Foreign Military Sales to Taiwan, as well  
18 as all other rights, privileges, and responsibilities af-  
19 forded to such community of states; and

20 (2) Taiwan should be so designated as a mem-  
21 ber of the “NATO Plus” community of states.

22 **SEC. 4. ENHANCED DEFENSE COOPERATION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the 5-year period begin-  
24 ning on the date of the enactment of this Act, Taiwan  
25 shall be treated as if it were a country listed in the provi-

1 sions of law described in subsection (b) for purposes of  
2 applying and administering such provisions of law.

3 (b) PROVISIONS OF LAW DESCRIBED.—The provi-  
4 sions of law described in this subsection are—

5 (1) subsections (b)(2), (d)(2)(B), (d)(3)(A)(i),  
6 and (d)(5) of section 3 of the Arms Export Control  
7 Act (22 U.S.C. 2753);

8 (2) subsections (e)(2)(A), (h)(1)(A), and (h)(2)  
9 of section 21 of such Act (22 U.S.C. 2761);

10 (3) the matter following subparagraph (P) of  
11 subsection (b)(1) and subsections (b)(2), (b)(6),  
12 (c)(2)(A), (c)(5), and (d)(2)(A) of section 36 of such  
13 Act (22 U.S.C. 2776);

14 (4) section 62(c)(1) of such Act (22 U.S.C.  
15 2796a(c)(1)); and

16 (5) section 63(a)(2) of such Act (22 U.S.C.  
17 2796b(a)(2)).

18 (c) CONTINUED APPLICATION.—The Secretary of  
19 State is authorized to continue to apply this section with  
20 respect to Taiwan for additional 5-year periods beginning  
21 after the end of the 5-year period described in subsection  
22 (a) if, with respect to each such additional 5-year period,  
23 the Secretary—

1           (1) determines that such continued application  
2       is in the national security interests of the United  
3       States; and

4           (2) submits such determination to the Com-  
5       mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-  
6       resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-  
7       tions of the Senate not later than 14 days before the  
8       start of such additional 5-year period.