

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 363

Supporting continued United States and Taiwan cooperation in education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2023

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Supporting continued United States and Taiwan cooperation
in education.

Whereas Mandarin is the second most spoken language in the world with more than 1,000,000,000 speakers;

Whereas Mandarin is a critical language that is essential to United States national security and prosperity, as identified by the Department of State Critical Language Scholarship Program;

Whereas learning a foreign language benefits students academically and improves critical thinking, communication, and knowledge of different cultures;

Whereas the internet has made it easier for companies to serve a global market and employers report favoring candidates who can speak a foreign language;

Whereas, in December 2020, the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initiative, a two-way educational exchange between the two countries, was created—

(1) to expand opportunities for students from the United States to learn Mandarin from Taiwanese teachers;

(2) to promote United States educators choosing Taiwan as a destination to teach English; and

(3) to deepen educational cooperation between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initiative coincides with widespread closures of Confucius Institutes in the United States and around the world;

Whereas there continues to be high student demand for studies relating to Mandarin language, culture, and history delivered in a censorship and coercion-free environment; and

Whereas, due to continuing political, economic, and security challenges, there is a need for continued access to the Mandarin language and expertise in Taiwan affairs: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initia-
3 tive; and

4 (2) encourages—

5 (A) institutions of higher education to con-
6 tinue partnering with Taiwan in order to meet
7 the demand for Mandarin instruction and learn-
8 ing programs;

1 (B) schools, school districts, and State and
2 local educational agencies to host teacher ex-
3 change programs, such as those offered by the
4 Department of State Teachers of Critical Lan-
5 guage Program; and

6 (C) United States teachers to choose Tai-
7 wan as a destination to learn Mandarin and to
8 teach English, particularly through the J. Wil-
9 liam Fulbright Educational Exchange Program.

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