

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1145
OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS OF NEW YORK**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD
2 HEALTH ORGANIZATION.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
4 ings:

5 (1) The World Health Organization (WHO) is
6 a specialized agency of the United Nations, charged
7 with coordinating health efforts within the United
8 Nations system. The World Health Assembly
9 (WHA) is the decision-making body of the WHO,
10 which convenes annually in May to set the policies
11 and priorities of the organization. Statehood is not
12 a requirement for attendance at the WHA, and nu-
13 merous observers, including non-members and non-
14 governmental organizations, attended the most re-
15 cent virtual WHA in May 2020.

16 (2) Taiwan began seeking to participate in the
17 WHO as an observer in 1997. In 2009, with strong
18 support from successive United States Administra-

1 tions, Congress, and like-minded WHO Member
2 States, and during a period of improved Cross-Strait
3 relations, Taiwan received an invitation to attend
4 the WHA as an observer under the name “Chinese
5 Taipei”. Taiwan received the same invitation each
6 year until 2016, when following the election of Presi-
7 dent Tsai-Ing Wen of the Democratic Progressive
8 Party, Taiwan’s engagement in the international
9 community began facing increased resistance from
10 the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Taiwan’s in-
11 vitation to the 2016 WHA was received late and in-
12 cluded new language conditioning Taiwan’s partici-
13 pation on the PRC’s “one China principle”. The
14 WHO did not invite Taiwan to attend the WHA as
15 an observer in 2017, 2018, 2019, or 2020.

16 (3) Taiwan remains a model contributor to
17 world health, having provided financial and technical
18 assistance to respond to numerous global health
19 challenges. Taiwan has invested over \$6 billion in
20 international medical and humanitarian aid efforts
21 impacting over 80 countries since 1996. In 2014,
22 Taiwan responded to the Ebola crisis by donating \$1
23 million and providing 100,000 sets of personal pro-
24 tective equipment., Through the Global Cooperation
25 and Training Framework – which partners Taiwan

1 with the United States and Japan as a platform for
2 sharing Taiwan's expertise in a variety of crucial
3 fields – the United States and Taiwan have jointly
4 conducted training programs for technical health ex-
5 perts to combat MERS, Dengue Fever, and Zika. In
6 2020, after successfully containing the spread of the
7 novel coronavirus within its borders while upholding
8 democratic principles, Taiwan generously donated
9 millions of pieces of personal protective equipment
10 and COVID-19 tests to countries in need. These dis-
11 eases know no borders, and Taiwan's needless exclu-
12 sion from global health cooperation increases the
13 dangers presented by global pandemics.

14 (4) Taiwan's international engagement has
15 faced increased resistance from the PRC. Taiwan
16 was not invited to the 2016 Assembly of the Inter-
17 national Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), despite
18 participating as a guest at the organization's prior
19 summit in 2013. Taiwan's requests to participate in
20 the General Assembly of the International Criminal
21 Police Organization (INTERPOL) have also been
22 rejected. In May 2017, PRC delegates disrupted a
23 meeting of the Kimberley Process on conflict dia-
24 monds held in Perth, Australia, until delegates from
25 Taiwan were asked to leave. Since 2016, the Demo-

1 cratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, the Re-
2 public of Panama, the Dominican Republic, Burkina
3 Faso, the Republic of El Salvador, the Solomon Is-
4 lands, and the Republic of Kiribati have terminated
5 longstanding diplomatic relationships with Taiwan
6 and granted diplomatic recognition to the PRC.

7 (5) Congress has established a policy of support
8 for Taiwan's participation in international bodies
9 that address shared transnational challenges, par-
10 ticularly in the WHO. Congress has passed multiple
11 measures to direct the Secretary of State to estab-
12 lish a strategy for, and to report annually to Con-
13 gress on, efforts to obtain observer status for Tai-
14 wan at the WHA. Congress also passed legislation
15 directing the Secretary to report on a strategy to
16 gain observer status for Taiwan at the ICAO Assem-
17 bly, and to report on a strategy to gain observer sta-
18 tus for Taiwan at the INTERPOL Assembly. How-
19 ever, since 2016 Taiwan has not received an invita-
20 tion to attend any of these events as an observer.

21 (b) AUGMENTATION OF REPORT CONCERNING THE
22 PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH OR-
23 GANIZATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 1
2 of Public Law 108–235 (118 Stat. 656) is amended
3 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

4 “(3) An account of the changes and improve-
5 ments the Secretary of State has made to the
6 United States plan to endorse and obtain observer
7 status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly,
8 following any annual meetings of the World Health
9 Assembly at which Taiwan did not obtain observer
10 status.”.

11 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
12 by paragraph (1) shall take effect and apply begin-
13 ning with the first report required under subsection
14 (c) of section 1 of Public Law 108–235 that is sub-
15 mitted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

