IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2019

Mr. McCaul (for himself, Mr. Engel, Mr. Yoho, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Diaz-Balart, and Mr. Connolly) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To foster security in Taiwan, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Taiwan Assurance Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) April 10, 2019, marks the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 (Public Law 96–8).
(2) Since 1949, the close relationship between the United States and Taiwan has benefitted both parties and the broader Indo-Pacific region.

(3) The security of Taiwan and its democracy are key elements of continued peace and stability of the greater Indo-Pacific region, which is in the political, security, and economic interests of the United States.

(4) The People’s Republic of China is currently engaged in a comprehensive military modernization campaign to enhance the power-projection capabilities of the People’s Liberation Army and its ability to conduct joint operations, which is shifting the military balance of power across the Taiwan Strait.

(5) Taiwan and its diplomatic partners continue to face sustained pressure and coercion from the People’s Republic of China, which seeks to isolate Taiwan from the international community.

(6) It is the policy of the United States to reinforce its commitments to Taiwan under the Taiwan Relations Act in a manner consistent with the “Six Assurances” and in accordance with the United States “One China” policy.

(7) In the Taiwan Travel Act, which became law on March 16, 2018, Congress observed that the
“self-imposed restrictions that the United States maintains on high-level visits” between the United States and Taiwan have resulted in insufficient high-level communication.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Taiwan is a vital part of the United States Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy;

(2) the United States Government—

(A) supports Taiwan’s continued pursuit of asymmetric capabilities and concepts; and

(B) urges Taiwan to increase its defense spending in order to fully resource its defense strategy; and

(3) the United States should conduct regular sales and transfers of defense articles to Taiwan in order to enhance its self-defense capabilities, particularly its efforts to develop and integrate asymmetric capabilities, including undersea warfare and air defense capabilities, into its military forces.

SEC. 4. TAIWAN’S INCLUSION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the People’s Republic of China’s attempts to dictate the terms of Taiwan’s participation in inter-
national organizations, has, in many cases, resulted in
Taiwan’s exclusion from such organizations even when
statehood is not a requirement, and that such exclusion—

(1) is detrimental to global health, civilian air
safety, and efforts to counter transnational crime;

(2) negatively impacts the safety and security
of citizens globally; and

(3) negatively impacts the security of Taiwan
and its democracy.

(b) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It is the policy of the
United States to advocate for Taiwan’s meaningful par-
ticipation in the United Nations, the World Health Assem-
bly, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the
International Criminal Police Organization, and other
international bodies, as appropriate, and to advocate for
Taiwan’s membership in the Food and Agriculture Orga-
nization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization, and other international organiza-
tions for which statehood is not a requirement for mem-
bership.

**SEC. 5. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE TAIWAN
GUIDELINES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the
date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State
shall conduct a review of the Department of State’s guid-
ance that governs relations with Taiwan, including the
periodic memorandum entitled “Guidelines on Relations
with Taiwan” and related documents, and reissue such
guidance to executive branch departments and agencies.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
gress that the Department of State’s guidance regarding
relations with Taiwan—

(1) should be crafted with the intent to deepen
and expand United States-Taiwan relations, and be
based on the value, merits, and importance of the
United States-Taiwan relationship;

(2) should be crafted giving due consideration
to the fact that Taiwan is governed by a representa-
tive democratic government that is peacefully con-
stituted through free and fair elections that reflect
the will of the people of Taiwan, and that Taiwan
is a free and open society that respects universal
human rights and democratic values; and

(3) should ensure that the conduct of relations
with Taiwan reflects the longstanding, comprehen-
sive, and values-based relationship the United States
shares with Taiwan, and contribute to the peaceful
resolution of cross-Strait issues.

(c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than
180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report that includes a description of—

(1) the results of the review pursuant to subsection (a) of the Department of State’s guidance on relations with Taiwan, including a copy of the re-issued “Guidelines of Relations with Taiwan” memorandum; and

(2) the implementation of the Taiwan Travel Act (Public Law 115–135) and any changes to guidance on relations with Taiwan that are the result of such implementation.