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:

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

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, charged with coordinating health efforts within the United Nations system. The World Health Assembly (WHA) is the decision-making body of the WHO, which convenes annually in May to set the policies and priorities of the organization. Statehood is not a requirement for attendance at the WHA, and numerous observers, including non-members and non-governmental organizations, attended the most recent virtual WHA in May 2020.

(2) Taiwan began seeking to participate in the WHO as an observer in 1997. In 2009, with strong support from successive United States Administra-
tions, Congress, and like-minded WHO Member
States, and during a period of improved Cross-Strait
relations, Taiwan received an invitation to attend
the WHA as an observer under the name “Chinese
Taipei”. Taiwan received the same invitation each
year until 2016, when following the election of Presi-
dent Tsai-Ing Wen of the Democratic Progressive
Party, Taiwan’s engagement in the international
community began facing increased resistance from
the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Taiwan’s in-
vitation to the 2016 WHA was received late and in-
cluded new language conditioning Taiwan’s partici-
pation on the PRC’s “one China principle”. The
WHO did not invite Taiwan to attend the WHA as

(3) Taiwan remains a model contributor to
world health, having provided financial and technical
assistance to respond to numerous global health
challenges. Taiwan has invested over $6 billion in
international medical and humanitarian aid efforts
impacting over 80 countries since 1996. In 2014,
Taiwan responded to the Ebola crisis by donating $1
million and providing 100,000 sets of personal pro-
tective equipment., Through the Global Cooperation
and Training Framework – which partners Taiwan
with the United States and Japan as a platform for sharing Taiwan’s expertise in a variety of crucial fields – the United States and Taiwan have jointly conducted training programs for technical health experts to combat MERS, Dengue Fever, and Zika. In 2020, after successfully containing the spread of the novel coronavirus within its borders while upholding democratic principles, Taiwan generously donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment and COVID-19 tests to countries in need. These diseases know no borders, and Taiwan’s needless exclusion from global health cooperation increases the dangers presented by global pandemics.

(4) Taiwan’s international engagement has faced increased resistance from the PRC. Taiwan was not invited to the 2016 Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), despite participating as a guest at the organization’s prior summit in 2013. Taiwan’s requests to participate in the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) have also been rejected. In May 2017, PRC delegates disrupted a meeting of the Kimberley Process on conflict diamonds held in Perth, Australia, until delegates from Taiwan were asked to leave. Since 2016, the Demo-
cratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, the Republic of Panama, the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, the Republic of El Salvador, the Solomon Islands, and the Republic of Kiribati have terminated longstanding diplomatic relationships with Taiwan and granted diplomatic recognition to the PRC.

(5) Congress has established a policy of support for Taiwan’s participation in international bodies that address shared transnational challenges, particularly in the WHO. Congress has passed multiple measures to direct the Secretary of State to establish a strategy for, and to report annually to Congress on, efforts to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the WHA. Congress also passed legislation directing the Secretary to report on a strategy to gain observer status for Taiwan at the ICAO Assembly, and to report on a strategy to gain observer status for Taiwan at the INTERPOL Assembly. However, since 2016 Taiwan has not received an invitation to attend any of these events as an observer.

(b) AUGMENTATION OF REPORT CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.—
(1) **In General.**—Subsection (c) of section 1 of Public Law 108–235 (118 Stat. 656) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) An account of the changes and improvements the Secretary of State has made to the United States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly, following any annual meetings of the World Health Assembly at which Taiwan did not obtain observer status.”

(2) **Effective Date.**—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect and apply beginning with the first report required under subsection (c) of section 1 of Public Law 108–235 that is submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act.