



For Immediate Release
Washington, D.C. – March 12, 2026
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FAPA Drives the “Taiwan Representative Office Act” Forward After Two Decades of Renaming Advocacy

Today, March 12, 2026, marks one year since the bipartisan **Taiwan Representative Office Act (S.974)** was reintroduced in the U.S. Senate. The bill directs the Secretary of State to seek negotiations to rename Taiwan’s de facto embassy in the United States from the “Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office” (TECRO) to the “Taiwan Representative Office” (TRO). The House companion bill, [H.R.3180](#), was subsequently introduced on May 5, 2025.

Today, the **Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA)** is relaunching a nationwide petition campaign urging Congress to pass the Taiwan Representative Office Act before the end of this Congress. FAPA calls on Members of both chambers to pass this critical legislation forward so it can reach the President’s desk this year.

“FAPA has advocated for the name ‘Taiwan’ to be clearly and accurately recognized in U.S. policy and official practice for more than two decades. We continue to prioritize this issue because names carry profound policy meaning,” said FAPA National President Dr. Su-Mei Kao (林素梅). “From early support letters to current standalone legislation, we have worked closely with Members of Congress to shape the legislative approach and advance this effort. Beyond renaming the office, the **Taiwan Representative Office Act reaffirms consistency with the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, while calling for de facto diplomatic treatment for the people of Taiwan.**”

The current name “TECRO” is misleading. It wrongly implies that the office represents only the city of “Taipei” rather than the whole of “Taiwan” and its people. It also understates the scope of U.S.–Taiwan cooperation, which extends far beyond “economic and cultural” ties to include security, technology, public health, and a robust democratic partnership. Moreover, the term **“TECRO” is inconsistent with longstanding U.S. policy and practice**, which consistently refers to **Taiwan simply as “Taiwan,”** as reflected in **the Taiwan Relations Act, the Taiwan Travel Act, and the name of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT).**

“Renaming Taiwan’s representative office is not merely symbolic,” Dr. Kao added. **“At a time when Beijing is escalating its diplomatic pressure and military coercion against Taiwan, clarity in U.S. policy matters.** The name rectification from TECRO to ‘Taiwan Representative Office’ (TRO) would better reflect the reality of U.S.–Taiwan relations and send a clear message to the world about the depth of U.S. support for its democratic allies.”

Over 20 Years of Advocacy and Legislative Effort

For more than two decades, FAPA has steadily advanced the effort to rename TECRO as the Taiwan Representative Office, building bipartisan support and refining its legislative strategy over time.



- **2002–2004:** Under FAPA’s initiative, Members of Congress — including **Reps. David Wu (D-OR), Dennis Moore (D-KS)**, and Congressional Taiwan Caucus co-chairs **Steve Chabot (R-OH), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)**, and **Robert Wexler (D-FL)**, as well as **Nita Lowey (D-NY)** — sent **congressional letters to Taiwan’s then-President Chen Shui-bian** supporting the renaming to reflect the office’s fundamental nature as representing “Taiwan” and its people.
- **2011–2014:** FAPA worked with **Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)** to introduce and promote the comprehensive **Taiwan Policy Act**, which included provisions supporting the renaming of TECRO to TRO, reaffirming the Six Assurances, and expanding high-level U.S.–Taiwan exchanges.
- **2015–2018:** FAPA shifted from advocating for omnibus Taiwan legislation to focusing on targeted, standalone bills, working closely with **then-Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)** and **Rep. Steve Chabot** to advance key pro-Taiwan legislation. These efforts contributed to [Congress’s 2016 passage of a concurrent resolution](#) reaffirming the **Taiwan Relations Act** and the **Six Assurances** as the “cornerstones” of U.S.–Taiwan relations, as well as **the enactment of the landmark Taiwan Travel Act in 2018.**
- **2020:** Under FAPA’s initiative, **78 House Members** led by Congressional Taiwan Caucus co-chairs **Steve Chabot** and **Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)** sent a bipartisan letter urging then–Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo** to rename TECRO as the Taiwan Representative Office.
- **2021–2024:** The renaming initiative was incorporated into multiple Taiwan-related bills, beginning with the **Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act** (2021), introduced by **Reps. Brad Sherman (D-CA) and Steve Chabot**; followed by the **Taiwan Policy Act** (2022), introduced by **Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ)** and **Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)**; and the **Taiwan Representative Office Act** (2022 & 2023), introduced by **then-Sen. Marco Rubio** and **then-Rep. John Curtis (R-UT)**, which specifically directs negotiations to rename TECRO as the Taiwan Representative Office.
- **2025–present:** FAPA continued to support legislative efforts across multiple Congresses, leading to the reintroduction of the Taiwan Representative Office Act, [S.974](#) and [H.R.3180](#), in the 119th Congress by **Sen. John Curtis (R-UT)** and **Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE).**

“Over the past twenty years, support for this name rectification has grown stronger with each Congress. With former Senator Marco Rubio — a long-time champion of the ‘Taiwan Representative Office’ renaming effort — now serving as the U.S. Secretary of State, now is the time to finish this name change,” FAPA National President Su-Mei Kao said. She called on supporters nationwide to join the renewed petition campaign and urge their Members of Congress to decisively advance the Taiwan Representative Office Act. **“The path forward is clear: pass the TRO Act this year and reinforce a consistent, credible U.S. policy that bolsters stability across the Taiwan Strait and the Indo-Pacific.”**

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