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## FAPA Urges Congressional Action to Codify the Six Assurances

On February 16, U.S. President Donald Trump said he had discussed arms sales to Taiwan with Chinese President Xi Jinping and would make a decision “soon.” The remark sparked renewed public attention to the Six Assurances—a longstanding U.S. policy first articulated in 1982 under the Reagan administration—which includes **a clear commitment that the United States *would not consult* with the People’s Republic of China (PRC) on arms sales to Taiwan.**

**The White House subsequently reiterated that U.S. policy toward Taiwan, based on the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, remains unchanged** and that Washington continues to engage with both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

“The **Six Assurances**, together with the **Taiwan Relations Act**, form the **cornerstones of U.S.–Taiwan relations**,” said Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA) National President Dr. Su-Mei Kao (林素梅). “**For more than four decades and across Republican and Democratic administrations, the U.S. has upheld its commitment not to negotiate arms sales to Taiwan with Beijing, consistent with the Six Assurances. Any deviation from this long-established policy would undermine deterrence and erode U.S. credibility in the Indo-Pacific.**”

“**The U.S. should never allow Beijing to influence decisions about Taiwan’s defensive needs,**” Dr. Kao added. “The Six Assurances have been **reaffirmed through various Congressional legislation and executive branch statements—including a landmark concurrent resolution passed by Congress in 2016 and championed by FAPA. Now it is time to fully codify these commitments into law through the bipartisan, bicameral Six Assurances to Taiwan Act.** Doing so would strengthen deterrence and provide the necessary legal safeguards to ensure that U.S. support for Taiwan is steady, credible, and not up for negotiation.”

In support of the Six Assurances to Taiwan Act, FAPA mobilized its members to send **over 2,400 petition letters** to the U.S. House and Senate. The House bill, championed by Reps. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) and Young Kim (R-CA), along with a bipartisan group of cosponsors, advanced out of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in September 2025—**one day after FAPA’s flagship National Advocacy Conference**, where 112 advocates from 24 chapters across 16 states met with more than 130 congressional offices to urge for the bill’s passage. The Senate companion was later introduced by Sens. John Curtis (R-UT) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) in November 2025.

“**We urge Congress to move swiftly to pass the Six Assurances to Taiwan Act,**” Dr. Kao concluded. “As Beijing intensifies military coercion and gray-zone pressure against Taiwan, passing the bill would send a clear signal of deterrence to the PRC and provide essential reassurance to democratic partners such as Taiwan that **U.S. commitments remain firm, credible, and bipartisan, consistent with long-standing U.S. policy toward Taiwan.**”

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