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FAPA Draws Record Turnout at 2026 National Advocacy Conference to Strengthen Taiwan's Security and U.S.-Taiwan Relations

From September 12 to 14, 2026, the Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA) held its largest National Advocacy Conference (NAC) in the organization's history, bringing together 132 participants representing 29 FAPA chapters from across the United States. Following the conference, participants made **more than 257 visits to congressional offices representing 29 states** to advocate for key legislative initiatives strengthening Taiwan's security and democratic resilience.

Under this year's theme, "*America at 250: Defending Democracy, Standing with Taiwan*," the conference convened at a critical time marked by **intensifying PRC military activities and gray-zone pressure tactics against Taiwan and across the Indo-Pacific region, amid heightened attention ahead of a major U.S.-China summit in Washington.**

FAPA's national legislative agenda directly addresses these regional threats. Participants urged Members of Congress to support key legislation that would strengthen U.S.-Taiwan defense, technological, and industrial cooperation, including the **Blue Skies for Taiwan Act** and the **Taiwan and American Space Assistance (TASA) Act**. These initiatives are designed to expand bilateral U.S.-Taiwan cooperation in emerging technologies such as defense drones and space capabilities.

Advocates also pressed for the passage of the **Six Assurances to Taiwan Act**, which would **formally codify these assurances into law** and reinforce longstanding U.S. commitments to Taiwan as a key democratic ally. **Since the Reagan administration, successive U.S. administrations have upheld the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances as cornerstones of U.S.-Taiwan relations, contributing to peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.** Nevertheless, unlike the Taiwan Relations Act, the Six Assurances have not been formally codified as federal law. **Congress can further stabilize the bilateral relationship by enacting this legislation.**

For FAPA, this year's record turnout reflects an increasingly engaged **Taiwanese American community ready to play a greater role in advocating for Taiwan.** "NAC has always been about building the capacity of our community," said Dr. Su-Mei Kao (林素梅), FAPA National President. "We want to empower more Taiwanese Americans across the country. **At a time when Taiwan faces growing security challenges and crucial Taiwan-related legislation is moving through Congress, it is especially important that Taiwanese Americans understand what is at stake and know how to engage effectively with their elected representatives.**"

Following the conference, FAPA also **co-hosted the "Stand with Taiwan Action Day" Congressional Reception with Rep. James R. Walkinshaw (D-VA), at which Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)**



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highlighted Taiwan's democratic values and importance to the United States. **“Taiwan represents freedom, liberty, free enterprise, and representative democracy,”** Krishnamoorthi said. **“I will always stand with those who represent those values.”** He also called for continued support for the **Six Assurances to Taiwan Act** and for Taiwan to receive the defense equipment it has already purchased for its self-defense.

Looking ahead, FAPA President Dr. Kao stressed, **“The work does not end when NAC does.** As participants return to their communities across the country, **we hope they carry that momentum home and keep these issues at the forefront of congressional attention as we work to advance these key pro-Taiwan bills before the end of the 119th Congress.”**

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