

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 22, 2026

Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

As co-chairs of the bipartisan Senate Taiwan Caucus, we urge you to immediately move forward with the \$14 billion arms sale package to Taiwan by formally notifying the sale to Congress, as required by law and as President Xi Jinping visits Washington this week. This \$14 billion package, which Taiwan would purchase with its own funds, was pre-approved by Congress in January 2025 and has strong bipartisan support. This delay undermines U.S. deterrence in the Indo-Pacific and creates unnecessary uncertainty among our allies and partners.

Following your last meeting with President Xi, senior administration officials have repeatedly said that this \$14 billion package is on hold. These statements create the impression that Taiwan's security, and longstanding U.S. policy, is being directed by Beijing. The United States should never allow Taiwan's defense to be used as leverage by the People's Republic of China.

Arms sales to Taiwan serve American interests by deterring Chinese aggression, preserving peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, and demonstrating the credibility of U.S. commitments to our allies and partners. The Taiwan Relations Act has enshrined in law for nearly half a century that it is the policy of the United States to provide Taiwan with articles sufficient to maintain a credible self-defense capability.

Taiwan is also not asking for a handout. They want to spend \$14 billion to purchase U.S. arms to defend themselves. These dollars will support jobs across the United States and serve as an investment in our own defense industrial base. Taiwan has approved a \$25 billion defense supplemental package, its largest ever, to support this U.S. arms package. This is a strong partner that wants to stand up for itself.

As we approach President Xi's visit to Washington, we urge you to stand up for American interests and against Chinese aggression through actions and not just rhetoric. As President Reagan made clear, U.S. arms sales to Taiwan should never be subject to negotiation with China—especially not at a time when Chinese aggression against Taiwan has evolved from aircraft incursions into a persistent, multidomain campaign that looks more like preparation for war. On a bipartisan basis, we agree that the United States must never allow China to use arms sales to Taiwan as a bargaining chip. On the eve of President Xi's visit to Washington, this is why we urge you to immediately approve this arms sale package for Taiwan.

Sincerely,



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Thom Tillis
United States Senator