

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 10, 2016

Her Excellency Tsai Ing-wen
President of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
No. 122, Sec. 1, Chongqing South Road, Zhongzeng District
Taipei City 10048, Taiwan (ROC)

Dear Madam President:

As the Co-Chairs of the Senate Taiwan Caucus, we send our warmest greetings to you and the people of Taiwan as you celebrate the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan). As longstanding friends of Taiwan, we join you in celebrating the history and importance of this day.

As you know, our two peoples are bound by shared interests and values—namely, our commitments to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, and free enterprise. We appreciate that freedom, security, and the exchanges of ideas, goods, and services are keys not only to a prosperous United States and a prosperous Taiwan, but also to a prosperous Asia-Pacific region and a prosperous world. We are also pleased to note that bilateral trade between the United States and Taiwan continues to grow, and that Taiwan was our 9th-largest trading partner last year. Increased trade and tourism brought about by Taiwan's participation in the Visa Waiver Program has markedly improved mutual understanding. The 148 U.S.-Taiwan Sister Cities, three of which are located in New Jersey and two in Oklahoma, provide rich opportunities to cultivate personal relationships at the individual level. Finally, this past April marked the 37th anniversary of the enactment of Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), a pivotal event in our shared history and emblematic of our strong bilateral relations.

In the coming year, we look forward to working with you to build on this legacy to increase our economic ties, to improve our collective security, and to strengthen the abiding friendship and partnership between our people, who share a commitment to robust democratic values. Taiwan is, and always will be, one of our most important partners in Asia. Again, our congratulations and best wishes to you and to the people of Taiwan, as you celebrate this significant day.

Sincerely,



James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator