

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Supporting continued United States and Taiwan cooperation in education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. MARKEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Supporting continued United States and Taiwan cooperation
in education.

Whereas Mandarin is the second most spoken language in the world with more than 1,000,000,000 speakers;

Whereas Mandarin is a critical language that is essential to United States national security and prosperity, as identified by the Department of State Critical Language Scholarship Program;

Whereas learning a foreign language benefits students academically and improves critical thinking, communication, and knowledge of different cultures;

Whereas the internet has made it easier for companies to serve a global market and employers report favoring candidates who can speak a foreign language;

Whereas, in December 2020, the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initiative, a two-way educational exchange between the two countries, was created—

(1) to expand opportunities for students from the United States to learn Mandarin from Taiwanese teachers;

(2) to promote United States educators choosing Taiwan as a destination to teach English; and

(3) to deepen educational cooperation between the United States and Taiwan;

Whereas the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initiative coincides with widespread closures of Confucius Institutes in the United States and around the world;

Whereas there continues to be high student demand for studies relating to Mandarin language, culture, and history delivered in a censorship and coercion-free environment; and

Whereas, due to continuing political, economic, and security challenges, there is a need for continued access to the Mandarin language and expertise in Taiwan affairs: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the U.S.-Taiwan Education Initia-
3 tive; and

4 (2) encourages—

5 (A) institutions of higher education to con-
6 tinue partnering with Taiwan in order to meet
7 the demand for Mandarin instruction and learn-
8 ing programs;

1 (B) schools, school districts, and State and
2 local educational agencies to host teacher ex-
3 change programs, such as those offered by the
4 Department of State Teachers of Critical Lan-
5 guage Program; and

6 (C) United States teachers to choose Tai-
7 wan as a destination to learn Mandarin and to
8 teach English, particularly through the J. Wil-
9 liam Fulbright Educational Exchange Program.