



# State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCORD

34 Swett Avenue  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Director Wellington W.C. Shih  
Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office  
99 Summer Street, Suite 801  
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Sept. 3, 2021

Dear Director Shih ,

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to meet with you recently in Portsmouth and speak with you about the situation in Taiwan and issues related to the status of Hong Kong. I would like to take this opportunity to send you greetings from the people of the Granite State, New Hampshire, and wish you and your country good health and prosperity.

In your role as the representative of the Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office I am sure you are well aware of the political discourse that surrounds the diplomatic status of Taiwan as well as Hong Kong. As a case-worker for Amnesty International beginning in 1971, I remember well when that organization was working for the release of political prisoners under the then military government that ruled Taiwan. At the same time, I also remember the celebrations that occurred when Taiwan finally achieved a democratic government and the significant positive changes that this transformation produced for the residents of Taiwan.

Taiwan can rightfully be proud of its long history, including the courageous efforts of the Taiwanese that has resulted in a strong and impressive democratic country. In addition, the economic capabilities and talents of the Taiwanese people have impressed many other nations, most recently, in the manner that the Covid pandemic was handled by that government.

As the sponsor of resolution HCR 5 concerning these issues, I want to inform you that the New Hampshire House of Representatives and the New Hampshire Senate both overwhelmingly passed HCR 5. Such resolutions in the New Hampshire legislature are very rare and usually do not have the needed 2/3 vote to even be considered. That this resolution received such strong bipartisan support underscores the fact that, at least in New Hampshire, we are impressed by the way Taiwan is protecting the democratic and constitutional rights of its citizens, despite numerous intimidating measures undertaken by the People's Republic of China. I am including a copy of the resolution for your consideration.

I am respectfully requesting that you forward resolution HCR 5 to your government, and would appreciate a response from that government confirming that they will continue to defend and strengthen Taiwan's democratic institutions.

Sincerely,

Rep. Peter Somssich, Ranking Democratic Member  
House Science Technology & Energy Committee, Rockingham, District 27 /Portsmouth  
tel. 603-436-5382, staterep27nh@gmail.com

CC: Senator Shaheen, Senator Hassan, Congresswoman Kuster, Congressman Pappas