

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Member of Congress:

On October 7, 2004, Reps. Steve Chabot and Sherrod Brown introduced HCR 512 concluding that it is the sense of Congress that "the President should seek a commitment from the leaders of the European Union that the European Union not lift its embargo on arms sales to the People's Republic of China."

As you know, the European Union (EU) is contemplating to lift its arms sale embargo to China after the annual EU/China summit meeting this coming December. The EU imposed its ban on selling arms to China after the 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre.

We vehemently object against the EU plans to lift the embargo, because:

First, such lift will alter the current fragile military balance across the Taiwan Strait and will rapidly tip the balance in China's favor. Second, it will aggravate the already strained relationship between the U.S. and the EU and impact the immediate U.S. security interests in the region. And finally, since the original Tiananmen Square protesters are still in jail and China continues to imprison its citizens for their democratic aspirations, lifting the ban (which after all originates from the 1989 massacre) would be tantamount to saying to those in prison that Europe does not hesitate to arm the oppressor.

Conclusion: The EU must not lift the arms sale embargo to China.

We hope you will co-sponsor HCR 512 by calling Kevin Fitzpatrick at 225- 2216.

Thank you for your support for Taiwan.

Sincerely,

Name _____ Signature _____
Address _____

Date _____ Phone _____