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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

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FAPA NEWS UPDATE



Volume 1, Issue 1

February 28, 2008

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world.

Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has!"

~ Margaret Mead

"The world is run by those who show up."

~ Unknown

TO FAPA Members:

FAPA NEWS UPDATE is designed to supplement the quarterly printed FAPA NEWS. This electronic version of newsletter intends to quickly communicate to you what is happening at the headquarters, such as the status of congressional resolutions of our concern, news, events, and actions that need to be taken.

We welcome your submissions of reports or pictures of local activities that are relevant to our mission and

goals, and that you would like to share with our members. You are also welcome to submit suggestions and short comments on issues that are important to us. We hope through this brief and quick publication we can further enhance communication between the headquarters and YOU, the most important component of our organization.

— Executive Director

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FAPA Public Education

FAPA and 67 Taiwanese American organizations recently placed a half page ad each in the Washington Post and New York Times. The ad urges U.S. government to support Taiwan's full membership in international organizations including the United Nations and the World Health Organization. It also urges President Bush to trust the people of Taiwan to choose their future of freedom and peace and to support Taiwan's upcoming democratic referendum.

For the past several decades, because of China's relentless pressure and intimidation, Taiwan has become an international orphan without any representation in the United Nations.

The people of Taiwan have a dream -- that someday soon their free and democratic country will be accepted as a full and equal member of the international community.

In his Second Inaugural address in 2001, President Bush stated: "It is the policy of the United States to seek and support the growth of democratic movements and institutions in every nation and culture..." and "The moral choice is between oppression, which is always wrong, and freedom, which is eternally right."

In his State of the Union Address on January 28th 2008, President Bush stated: "Our foreign policy is based on a clear promise: We trust that people, when given the chance, will choose a future of freedom and peace."

As leaders of Taiwanese-American organizations, we ask the United States Administration and Congress to stand up for the principles of human rights and self-determination.

WE URGE the United States government to support Taiwan's full membership in international organizations, including the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

To defend their hard-fought liberty and sovereignty, and through the most basic exercise of a true democracy, Taiwan plans to hold a referendum in March on Taiwan's membership in the United Nations in her own name.

WE URGE President Bush to "trust the people of Taiwan to choose a future of freedom and peace," by supporting Taiwan's upcoming democratic referendum.

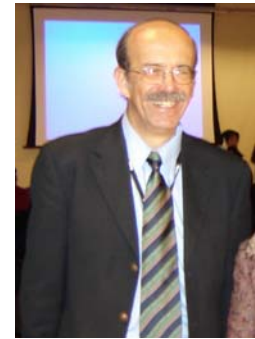
THERE CAN BE NO DOUBLE STANDARD WHEN IT COMES TO SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY

For further information contact FAPA at 202-547-3686 or visit www.fapa.org

We are also planning to place ad and TV commercials in Taiwan to urge people of Taiwan to make the right choice in this coming election.

Taiwan Sons-in-law Speech Tour

To implement the resolution passed by the Board during the 2006 meeting, the headquarters has sent Taiwan sons-in-law Gerrit and Coen and their spouses plus Mike Fonte to tour campuses of Taiwan universities and colleges. They will engage in conversations and meetings with students and share their personal stories with young people. The purpose of the tour is to encourage young people to get involved in democratic process and go out to vote in the coming presidential election.



FAPA Staff Gerrit van der wees (above), Iris & Coen Blaauw (left)

Capitol Hill Update

The following is a summary of the status of the Congressional resolutions of our interest:

Resolution	About	Number of Co-sponsors
HCR136	High level visit to the U.S. by Taiwan officials	Passed by the House
HR677	Arms sale to Taiwan	Passed by the House
HCR278	Supporting Taiwan's 4 th direct and democratic presidential election in March 2008	41 Passed by House Foreign Affairs Committee
HCR137	Free Trade Agreement between U.S. and Taiwan	33
HCR250	Supporting Taiwan's membership in international organizations such as UN	40
HCR73	U.S. should resume diplomatic relations with Taiwan	11
HR1390	Senate confirmation of AIT Director	20
SCR48	High level visit to the U.S. by officials of Taiwan	9
SCR60	Free Trade Agreement between U.S. and Taiwan	2

- On February 27, the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously passed HCR278 which concludes "that it is the sense of the Congress that the Congress should organize a congressional delegation to observe Taiwan's presidential election in March 2008."

With the passage of this resolution, we are actively inviting members of Congress to visit Taiwan to observe this important presidential election. Please encourage your Representatives to join the delegation. The Taiwan presidential election falls during the Easter holidays. That would make members of Congress more likely to take a trip to Taiwan. If you have contacted your representatives, please let the headquarters staff know for follow-ups.



- Nine members of Congress led by Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) recently wrote a letter to President Bush calling for an end of One China Policy. They believe the so-called One China Policy is in conflict with the Taiwan Relations Act.
- We are currently recruiting statements and expressions of support in writing and on videotape from Members of Congress for the March 22 UN referendum.



Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) currently serves the Ninth Congressional district of Florida

For more details about the resolutions and letters, please visit our website FAPA.org.

FAPA Affairs

- To implement the Board resolution to re-constitute Maryland Chapter to resolve the disputes, the headquarters called and held a meeting on February 24. Forty-one re-registered members out of 60 attended the meeting. FAPA President Yang chaired the meeting during which a new chapter president, an at-large board member, and chapter officers were elected.
- Members from Georgia, New Jersey, Indiana, and Illinois chapters met with Representatives Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Robert Andrews (D-NJ), and Dan Burton (R-IN) respectively. The meeting went very well and was productive.



Maryland Chapter Meeting on 2/24/2008

FAPA YPG Taiwan Trip



Young Professional Group (YPG) is organizing a 15-member delegation to observe Taiwan's presidential election. They plan to stay in Taiwan for a week..



Encourage your friends and families in Taiwan to go out on March 22 to vote and support UN referendum.

THE GOALS OF FAPA ARE:

- (1) TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN (FORMOSA) TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT AND DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY, AND TO JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY;
- (2) TO ADVANCE THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF TAIWANESE COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD; AND
- (3) TO PROMOTE PEACE AND SECURITY FOR TAIWAN.