To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

December 18, 2015

Mr. Gardner (for himself, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Rubio, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Boozman, Ms. Baldwin, Mr. Thune, Mr. Isakson, Mr. Manchin, Mr. Markey, Mr. McCain, Mrs. Shaheen, and Mrs. Boxer) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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Reported by Mr. Corker, without amendment

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A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Safety, security and peace is important to every citizen of the world, and shared information ensuring wide assistance among police authorities of nations for expeditious dissemination of information regarding criminal activities greatly assists in these efforts.

(2) Direct and unobstructed participation in the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) is beneficial for all nations and their police authorities. Internationally shared information with authorized police authorities is vital to peacekeeping efforts.

(3) With a history dating back to 1914, the role of INTERPOL is defined in its constitution: “To ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.”

(4) Ongoing international threats, including international networks of terrorism, show the ongo-
ing necessity to be ever inclusive of nations willing
to work together to combat criminal activity. The
ability of police authorities to coordinate, preempt,
and act swiftly and in unison is an essential element
of crisis prevention and response.

(5) Taiwan maintained full membership in
INTERPOL starting in 1964 through its National
Police Administration but was ejected in 1984 when
the People’s Republic of China (PRC) applied for
membership.

(6) Nonmembership prevents Taiwan from
gaining access to INTERPOL’s I–24/7 global police
communications system, which provides real-time in-
formation on criminals and global criminal activities.
Taiwan is relegated to second-hand information from
friendly nations, including the United States.

(7) Taiwan is unable to swiftly share informa-
tion on criminals and suspicious activity with the
international community, leaving a huge void in the
global crime-fighting efforts and leaving the entire
world at risk.

(8) The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Pol-
icy Review, declared its intention to support Tai-
wan’s participation in appropriate international or-
ganizations and has consistently reiterated that support.

(9) Following the enactment of Public Law 108–235, a law authorizing the Secretary of State to initiate and implement a plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the annual summit of the World Health Assembly and subsequent advocacy by the United States, Taiwan was granted observer status to the World Health Assembly for six consecutive years since 2009. Both prior to and in its capacity as an observer, Taiwan has contributed significantly to the international community’s collective efforts in pandemic control, monitoring, early warning, and other related matters.

(10) INTERPOL’s constitution allows for observers at its meetings by “police bodies which are not members of the Organization”.

(b) TAIWAN’S PARTICIPATION IN INTERPOL.—The Secretary of State shall—

(1) develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in INTERPOL and at other related meetings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter; and

(2) instruct INTERPOL Washington to officially request observer status for Taiwan in INTERPOL and to actively urge INTERPOL mem-
(c) **Report Concerning Observer Status for Taiwan in INTERPOL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report, in unclassified form, describing the United States strategy to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan in appropriate international organizations, including INTERPOL, and at other related meetings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter. The report shall include the following:

1. A description of the efforts the Secretary has made to encourage member states to promote Taiwan’s bid to obtain observer status in appropriate international organizations, including INTERPOL.

2. A description of the actions the Secretary will take to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan in appropriate international organizations, including INTERPOL, and at other related meetings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter.