

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2021

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken,

We write to you with extreme concern regarding the recent surge of COVID-19 cases in Taiwan. As you have announced your intention to ship surplus doses of the COVID-19 vaccine abroad, we urge you to include Taiwan in this upcoming distribution.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic Taiwan proved adept at stemming the spread of the virus and even supported efforts to counterbalance China's weaponization of the global supply chain by donating over 12 million masks to the U.S. in 2020. However, due to a contagious variant and limited access to vaccines, Taiwan's cases of COVID-19 doubled in a week from around 1,200 to over 2,500 cases as of May 19. This outbreak is exacerbated by the fact that despite its population of 24 million people, Taiwan has only received 716,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine through COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) and less than 1% of its people have been inoculated.

Taiwan is working to stem the spread of COVID-19 and avoid an economic lockdown. Such measures to slow the spread would not only impact Taiwan's domestic economy but also have immense second order-effects on the United States' own recovery by threatening Taiwan's critical continued production of chips, semiconductors, and other electronics products essential to America's technology and auto industries.

We applaud your decision to share 20 million doses of vaccines made by Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson to other countries around the world. As Taiwan aided the United States in the early days of the pandemic through donations of PPE, the United States should continue to support our strong partnership through the provision of excess doses of COVID-19 vaccine to Taiwan. As you develop a plan to distribute vaccines to our partners and allies in the Indo-Pacific, we believe Taiwan should be on the priority list of countries for vaccine contribution.

As the virus is spreading quickly in the region, we urge you to take immediate action to share vaccines with Taiwan. Thank you for considering this important matter. We look forward to receiving your response and plan to assist Taiwan.

Cc: Ms. Gayle Smith Coordinator for Global COVID-19 Response and Health Security, State
Department
Mr. Jeff Zients, Coordinator of the President's COVID-19 Task Force, White House

Sincerely,



Andy Barr
Member of Congress

/s/

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

/s/

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

/s/

Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress

/s/

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

/s/

Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress

/s/

Chis Pappas
Member of Congress

/s/

Kevin Hern
Member of Congress

/s/

Kaiiali'i Kahele
Member of Congress

/s/

Ralph Norman
Member of Congress

/s/

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

/s/

Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress

/s/

Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress

/s/

Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

/s/

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

/s/

Brian Mast
Member of Congress

/s/

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

/s/

Kat Cammack
Member of Congress

/s/

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

/s/

Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

/s/

Mark Takano
Member of Congress

/s/

W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress

/s/

Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress

/s/

Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress

/s/

Liz Cheney
Member of Congress

/s/

Scott DesJarlais, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Ken Buck
Member of Congress

/s/

William Timmons
Member of Congress

/s/

Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress

/s/

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress

/s/

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

/s/

Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress

/s/

Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress

/s/

Donald J. Bacon
Member of Congress

/s/

Chris Stewart
Member of Congress

/s/

Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress

/s/

Billy Long
Member of Congress

/s/

Troy Balderson
Member of Congress

/s/

Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress

/s/

David Rouzer
Member of Congress

/s/

Blake Moore
Member of Congress

/s/

Lisa McClain
Member of Congress

/s/

Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress

/s/

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress

/s/

Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress

/s/

Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress

/s/

Michael Waltz
Member of Congress

/s/

Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress

/s/

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

/s/

Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress

/s/

Anthony Gonzalez
Member of Congress

/s/

Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M
Member of Congress

/s/

John Curtis
Member of Congress

/s/

Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress

/s/

Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress

/s/

Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress

/s/

Lloyd Smucker
Member of Congress

/s/

Tom McClintock
Member of Congress

/s/

Randy Weber
Member of Congress

/s/

Dan Bishop
Member of Congress

/s/

Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress