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SAADE M. MAATEUNAAA. MAYYAH BAANE, SATTUR MATUNAA, MUW YERK MAAR BALCUS, MENTANA ANYO L. BORRI, OKLANCOMA BALCUS, MENTANA SAGTOG J. MITCHELL MANDO SAGTOG J. MITCHELL MANDO DOMAID W. AFERLA, JR. MICHEAN MOME O ROCESTELLER W. WEST VIRGINIA JOHN O ROCESTELLER W. WEST VIRGINIA STEVE SYN

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SINANCE WASHINGTON, DC 205 10-8200 March 2, 1990

VANDA B. MONUNTRY, STAN BIRGETOR AND CHEF COURSEL

The President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

## Dear Mr. President:

We are writing in support of Taiwan's January 1, 1990 application for membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), and urge you to commit the full support of the United States to this effort.

Membership for Taiwan in GATT follows naturally and logically from Taiwan's achievement of significant economic status around the world. Taiwan has become a major player as our fifth largest trading partner and the thirtsenth largest trading entity in the world. Its foreign exchange reserves rank second in the world and its citizens enjoy an impressively high standard of living. The U.S. should take this unique opportunity to further its own international trade interests and those of the GATT institution by supporting Taiwan's application.

We understand that Taiwan is fully prepared to assume the international responsibilities and obligations of a GATT member. It has taken important trade-liberalization steps, including improvement of intellectual property protection and significant tariff reductions. Taiwan is applying as a "developed" country, under the name of the "Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu." This clearly limits the application to those areas over which Taiwan has autonomy in the conduct of foreign trade.

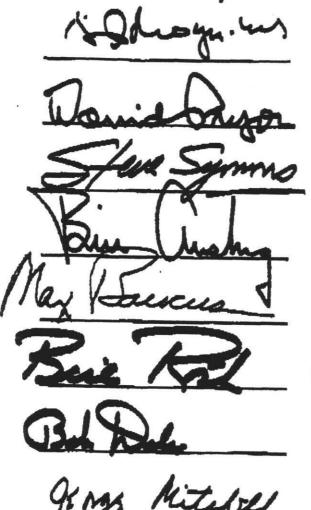
We urge you to support the creation of a GATT Working Group and to request that the GATT Secretariat place Taiwan's accession request on the agenda of the next GATT Council meeting. This is an essential first step in our effort to help Taiwan assume its deserved place in the international trade community.

Sincerely,

Fland Bentrem

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