The following is a Congressional Briefing introduced by the Secretary of State, Antony J. Blinken, regarding the recent conflict between China and Taiwan.
Dear Senators:

As of October 27, China has made provocative military action against Taiwan. Chinese Naval ships, including aircraft carriers and Type 055 destroyers, have now completely surrounded Taiwan, blocking all ports of entry. Chinese President Xi Jinping has announced that they will “reclaim their land,” within the next week.

Just two hours ago, President Tsai Ing-wen made a direct phone call to President Joe Biden urging for the United States to respond immediately to China’s advancements. She has requested ample military support, deterrent efforts, and multilateral sanctions to combat Chinese aggression. Russia, Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the UK have all come out in support of Taiwan during this crisis.

Congress, we need you to introduce a piece of legislation to respond to such requests. If we ignore President Tsai Ing-wen’s wishes, we risk drastically harming our geopolitical influence and breaking our past promises to Taiwan. If we go too far, we risk escalation of violence against both Taiwan and the United States.

Sincerely,

Antony J. Blinken
Secretary of State