

# House Political Subdivisions Committee

## House Concurrent Resolution 3035

Andrew Alexis Varvel

Written Testimony

Chairman Longmuir, Vice Chairman Fegley, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Alexis Varvel. I live in Bismarck, District 47.

These are difficult times, with increasingly aggressive rhetoric and saber rattling emanating from Beijing. Cultural genocide is proceeding against Uighurs in Xinjiang Province. This comes in the aftermath of Beijing's botched response to the Covid-19 pandemic, including a policy in early 2020 which effectively promoted the international spread of what had been known then as the Wuhan Coronavirus from Wuhan Tianhe International Airport at a time when railroad travel to and from Wuhan had ceased due to a stringent quarantine.

This also comes at a time when Beijing's support for Russia's invasion of Ukraine is becoming increasingly evident. Whatever else can be said about the Republic of China, Taiwan has escaped the ravages of Chairman Mao's Cultural Revolution. Taiwan also escaped the ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic due to how Beijing had imposed an economic boycott, in contrast to how Covid-19 spread from Mainland China to Iran.

We should consider how the Republic of China fought valiantly against Imperial Japan during World War II, both before and after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.

Imperial Japan focused its efforts during World War II on defeating the Republic of China. These efforts included horrific reprisals – reprisals which included biological warfare – in response to the Doolittle Raid. Japanese atrocities left the Republic of China greatly weakened, leaving Mainland China vulnerable to later conquest by Soviet proxies.

So, the State of North Dakota should continue to strengthen our economic ties with Taiwan. In contrast to economic mismanagement on the mainland, the Republic of China has flourished in Taiwan. Please give HCR 3035 a DO PASS recommendation.

Thank you.