

SB-56

To rival aggressive advancements made by The Peopleâ€™s Republic of China in the Southeast Asian region through economic investment and trade restructuring in the form of a unilateral free trade agreement with key nations in and around the South China Sea.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Jasso of Florida introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To rival aggressive advancements made by The Peopleâ€™s Republic of China in the Southeast Asian region through economic investment and trade restructuring in the form of a unilateral free trade agreement with key nations in and around the South China Sea.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Southeast Asian Investment Plan (SAIP) Act".

SECTION 2. NATIONS INCLUDED OR REASON FOR EXEMPTION

(1) Included Nations

(b) Japan

(c) Taiwan

(d) Philippines

(e) Indonesia

(f) Malaysia

(g) Thailand

(2) Excluded Nations

(a) Brunei

The nation of Brunei has a history of human rights abuses, including the death penalty for homosexuality, and religious persecution.

(b) Myanmar

Myanmar has recently undergone a military coup that has seen its democratically elected government deposed by an elitist stratocracy. The government is currently under international review for human rights abuses.

(c) Laos

Laos has a history of human rights abuses on an ethnic basis; the history of ethnic violence internally is too great to overlook for a trade agreement of this magnitude.

(d) Singapore

The U.S and Singapore have an extremely extensive Free-Trade Agreement, including the exemption of duty-taxes and relaxed customs laws, therefore inclusion in this bill is redundant.

SECTION 3. TRADE SPECIFICS

(b) JAPAN

As Japan's largest trading partner, moving a volume of 186 Billion dollars. Business travel between countries is also quite easy.

(1) The USTR will be directed to not change average tariff rates, but lower agricultural tariffs from 15.5% to 15.2%

(c) TAIWAN

After congresses recent approval of arms sales to Taiwan, the signing of the TAIPEI Act, unofficial ties have greatly been strengthened with Taiwan. Despite its small population, Taiwan is our 10th largest trading partner in terms of goods, moving a combined 85.5 billion dollars per year.

- (1) The USTR will be directed to lower the OSABT from 6.39% to 6.0%
- (2) U.S I.C.E will be directed to loosen investment capital/ business expertise requirements for B-1, E-1, E-2, EB-5, and H-1B business Visas.

e) PHILLIPINES

The Philippines and U.S have a special relationship, it is also apparent America has few alternatives for semiconductor supply, the Philippines' largest export to the U.S is semiconductors, a reduction in this tariff may help usher in a transition to Filipino-made semiconductors.

- (1) The USTR will be directed to lower the OSABT from 5.6% to 6.0%
- (2) U.S I.C.E will be directed to loosen investment capital/ business expertise requirements for B-1, E-1, E-2, EB-5, and H-1B business Visas.

(f) INDONESIA

Indonesia is unique in U.S trade, as the top 10 imports from Indonesia, all consist of agricultural goods. Therefore a reduction in the agricultural goods tax may be at too much of an expense at the U.S agricultural industry.

- (1) The USTR will be directed to lower the OSABT from 8.1% to 7.5%
- (2) U.S I.C.E will be directed to loosen investment capital/ business expertise requirements for B-1, E-1, E-2, EB-5, and H-1B business Visas.

(g) MALAYSIA

Malaysia provides one of the greatest opportunities for investment. American companies employ 200,000 Malaysian citizens and privately invest 15 billion dollars in the Malaysian economy.

- (1) The USTR will be directed to lower the OSABT from 7.4% to 7.1%

(h) THAILAND

The U.S is Thailand's third-largest trading partner, totaling a combined 31 billion dollars in trade. Jasmine rice farms, which employ a staggering 2/3ds of the Thai population. The 2007 U.S farm bill permits research into exploring bio alternatives to Jasmine rice-growing methods, therefore bypassing trade secrets.

- (1) The USDA will be directed to cease the funding of bio alternative growing methods of Jasmine rice.
- (2) The USTR will be directed to lower the OSABT from 6.1% to 5.98%