



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

DEC 12 2011

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for your letter of November 21 regarding the upcoming Taiwan elections.

The State Department shares your interest in, and support for, Taiwan's democratic process and open, pluralistic society. The common values of the people in the United States and Taiwan and our shared belief in democracy form one of the foundations of our close ties.

As Assistant Secretary Kurt Campbell noted in his testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on October 4, the United States government does not believe any one party or leader on Taiwan has a monopoly on effective management of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship. We do not have a favored candidate and we do not take sides in the elections. We will work closely with whatever leadership emerges from Taiwan's elections to build on our enduring commitment to Taiwan's people, its prosperity, and peace in the region. The choice of Taiwan's leaders is a matter for Taiwan's people, and we look forward to a free and fair election in January.

We hope this information is useful to you. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. S. Adams", with a long, sweeping underline.

David S. Adams
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

The Honorable
Sherrod Brown,
United States Senate.