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CONGRESSWOMAN ROS-LEHTINEN TO SPEAK ON WHY TAIWAN MATTERS

LOS ANGELES— The Formosa Foundation announced today that U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, will join the Foundation on Saturday, June 11 for a discussion on the importance of Taiwan. The event will be held at the Taiwan Center in Rosemead, California at 1:00 p.m.

For several years, the Formosa Foundation has been in discussions with Ros-Lehtinen about a hearing in Congress on the issue of Taiwan. Earlier this year, the Congresswoman met with the Executive Director of the Formosa Foundation and confirmed that she would call a hearing in the United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs on the subject of "Why Taiwan Matters." Ros-Lehtinen is anticipated to speak about the hearing during her remarks.

“Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen is one of the greatest supporters of the Taiwanese people in Washington, and we are grateful that she has agreed to hold a Committee Hearing on why Taiwan is important to the United States,” said Terri Giles, Executive Director of the Formosa Foundation. Giles added that “Ros-Lehtinen is a champion for democracy and liberty and we are honored that she will be joining us in Los Angeles for this significant event.”

As a founding member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, Ros-Lehtinen has been a stalwart defender of Taiwan and a tireless advocate for its democracy. Recently she co-authored a resolution which passed the House supporting arms sales, including F16 aircraft, to help ensure Taiwan maintains a sufficient self-defense capability. Ros-Lehtinen is also a passionate advocate for a US-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement and has called on the US Trade Representative to open talks with Taiwan.

In January, Ros-Lehtinen confronted Chinese President Hu Jintao and held a hearing to address human rights issues during his State Visit. She also wrote a letter to President Obama outlining her grave concerns regarding Taiwan’s security, Chinese human rights, and economic issues.

The June 11 event is free of charge and open to the public. The Taiwan Center is located at 3001 Walnut Grove, Rosemead, California.

Based in Los Angeles, the Formosa Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting greater understanding of the relationship between Taiwan and the United States, and preserving and enhancing democracy, human rights and freedom for the people of Taiwan.

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