

OpenVoiceNews U.S.

Transparent. Unbiased. Yours.

Bipartisan Push in Congress Targets China as Trump Eyes Trade

July 28, 2025

– Categories: Human Rights



Download IPFS

A bipartisan group of United States lawmakers is introducing new legislation aimed at countering the People’s Republic of China on key issues, including national security, human rights, and foreign influence, even as President Donald Trump intensifies efforts to secure a new trade agreement with Beijing.

Three new bills, supported by both Republican and Democratic senators, reflect a growing consensus in Washington that the United States must take a firmer stand against China's rising aggression, particularly its actions toward Taiwan, its treatment of ethnic minorities, and its attempts to silence critics beyond its borders. This legislative effort underscores the reality that concerns over China's global behavior have become one of the few areas of agreement across party lines.

One bill, co-sponsored by Senator John Cornyn (Republican, Texas), seeks to bar entry into the U.S. for Chinese officials involved in the forced repatriation of Uyghurs, an ethnic minority group primarily located in Xinjiang, China. Multiple reports from human rights organizations have accused Chinese authorities of widespread abuses against the Uyghur Muslim population, claims which Beijing denies.

A second proposal, introduced with support from Senator John Curtis (Republican, Utah), focuses on bolstering international support for Taiwan. The legislation encourages stronger ties with Latin American and Caribbean nations that recognize Taiwan diplomatically, and aims to strengthen strategic cooperation with the island as it faces mounting pressure from Beijing.

The third bill, led in part by Senator Dan Sullivan (Republican, Alaska), targets what is known as "transnational repression," the practice of authoritarian regimes extending their reach overseas to intimidate or harm dissidents, journalists, and activists. The legislation would seek to identify and counter foreign efforts to suppress free speech on American soil and among exiled communities.

Senator Jeff Merkley (Democrat, Oregon), a co-sponsor of all three bills, stated, "No matter who is in the White House, America's values of freedom and human rights must remain at the heart of a clear and principled vision that guides our leadership on the global stage."

While President Trump continues to pursue trade negotiations and a personal rapport with Chinese President Xi Jinping, many in Congress have made it clear they intend to uphold a hardline stance on strategic and moral grounds. White House officials maintain that the administration is committed to security in the Asia-Pacific region, even as trade remains a priority.

As top trade officials from the United States and China prepare to meet in Stockholm, lawmakers remain focused on maintaining pressure and defending American interests. The

introduction of these bills signals Washington's intent to balance economic cooperation with strong policy actions aimed at safeguarding national security and supporting democratic allies.