Taiwan Double Tax Relief Passes US House of Representatives, Progresses to Senate

1 February 2024

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On 31 January 2024, the US House of Representatives passed legislation (H.R. 7024) that includes Taiwan double tax relief (see Note 1) on a vote of 357 to 70. Under H.R. 7024, businesses and workers who are in the United States and Taiwan can avoid double taxation.

The Senate will now receive H.R. 7024; however, if they make changes, it will go back to the House of Representatives to agree or make further alterations.

H.R. 7024 was passed in the House of Representatives under suspension of the rules. This procedure is used to fast-track legislation, and under the suspension of the rules, two-thirds of the House of Representatives must vote "yea" in order for the legislation to pass. A suspension of the rules is to avoid a procedural vote, which allows the House of Representatives to temporarily set aside their rules, for example to limit debate time.

Note 1: The US-Taiwan Double-Tax Relief Act (H.R. 5988) was originally proposed in 2023 as an independent piece of legislation; however, the relief was included as a package under H.R. 7024 (see US Releases Draft Bill to Address Double Taxation in United States and Taiwan (14 July 2023), US House Committee on Ways and Means Approves US-Taiwan Expedited Double-Tax Relief Act (1 December 2023)).

Note 2: The US-Taiwan Double-Tax Relief Act has been referred to as being treaty-like, for example by the US Senate Committee on Finance. Given the United States acknowledges the One China policy (IRI0275), there is no tax treaty with Taiwan.

United States; Chinese Taipei - Taiwan Double Tax Relief Passes US House of Representatives, Progresses to Senate (01 Feb. 2024), News IBFD.

Exported / Printed on 9 Mar. 2024 by hkermadi@deloitte.lu.