



HR0881

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, July 20, 2020 will mark 21 years since the Chinese
3 Communist Party (CCP) launched a systematic and brutal campaign
4 to "eradicate" the spiritual discipline of Falun Gong, a
5 traditional Buddhist-based meditation practice whose core
6 principles are truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance; and

7 WHEREAS, When this persecution first began in 1999, there
8 were 70 to 100 million people from all walks of life practicing
9 Falun Gong in China according to the Chinese government's own
10 estimate; persecution of Falun Gong is not limited to a
11 specific region; it is in every province, every city, and every
12 county throughout China; and

13 WHEREAS, A 2007 U.S. State Department Human Rights Report
14 states, "[the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Manfred] Nowak
15 reported that Falun Gong practitioners accounted for 66 percent
16 of victims of alleged torture while in government custody"; and

17 WHEREAS, Since July 1999, there have been over 4,300
18 documented cases of Falun Gong practitioners dying as a result
19 of torture and abuse in police custody, yet due to the danger
20 and difficulties of verifying each case and sending that
21 information overseas, the true death toll is widely believed to
22 be many times higher; and

1 WHEREAS, On June 17, 2019, an independent tribunal in
2 London, chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice QC who worked at the
3 International Criminal Tribunal and led the prosecution of
4 Slobodan Milosevic, released its final judgment and concluded:
5 "Forced organ harvesting has been committed for years
6 throughout China on a significant scale and that Falun Gong
7 practitioners have been one - and probably the main - source of
8 organ supply"; and

9 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State Country Report on
10 Human Rights for China in 2014 stated, "Advocacy groups
11 continued to report instances of organ harvesting from
12 prisoners"; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2015, Freedom House reported that Falun Gong
14 practitioners comprise the largest portion of prisoners of
15 conscience in China and face an elevated risk of dying or being
16 killed while in custody; and

17 WHEREAS, The ramifications of such atrocities are beyond
18 the Chinese border, as many organ recipients are westerners,
19 and there has been much collaboration between the Chinese
20 transplant industry and western medical professionals and the
21 pharmaceutical industry; and

1 WHEREAS, As the current pandemic shows, a lack of
2 international censure to these horrific crimes has not only
3 cost the lives of innocent Chinese, but also those of many in
4 the West; and

5 WHEREAS, One of the lead investigators of the CCP's killing
6 of Falun Gong practitioners for their organs, David Matas,
7 explained: "...if China had faced global pressure for
8 transparency and accountability in its health system in dealing
9 with organ transplant abuses, we wouldn't have this coronavirus
10 now. And we are suffering the consequences now of turning a
11 blind eye to organ transplant abuse"; and

12 WHEREAS, The CCP's mass campaign to vilify and eradicate
13 Falun Gong and its core values of truthfulness, compassion, and
14 tolerance is also an attack on the conscience of humanity and
15 corrupts the moral fabric of Chinese society; and

16 WHEREAS, This less visible yet more profound damage can
17 have consequences in the West too, as immigrants from such a
18 Chinese society are more likely to act as the CCP's surrogates
19 and conduct technology thefts or espionage activities; and

20 WHEREAS, A Chinese population with more access to free
21 information and more exposure to western values will be less
22 likely to become the CCP's accomplice or advance its agenda in

1 the international community; and

2 WHEREAS, The Washington Post reported in 1999 that many
3 influential people in the party, the government, and the
4 military practiced Falun Gong at that time, and Falun Gong
5 practitioners have a deep understanding about the CCP and know
6 best how to disintegrate it; and

7 WHEREAS, Falun Gong practitioners have been operating
8 200,000 or more underground printing houses to produce such
9 material across China in what likely constitutes the largest
10 non-violent, grassroots resistance in the world; and

11 WHEREAS, It was Falun Gong practitioners who spearheaded
12 international media companies that broadcast uncensored
13 information to China via satellite TV and shortwave radio; and

14 WHEREAS, It was Falun Gong practitioners who developed free
15 ground-breaking internet freedom software, Freegate and
16 Ultrasurf, which allow millions in China to bypass the Great
17 Firewall and reach entire sectors of the Internet that are
18 blocked by the CCP, as reported by the New York Times, Wall
19 Street Journal, and many other media outlets; and

20 WHEREAS, As a result, to date, over 300-million Chinese
21 people have withdrawn from the CCP and/or its affiliated

1 organizations (most used pseudo-names to avoid the CCP's
2 retaliation), a phenomenon similar to what happened right
3 before the collapse of the Soviet Union; and

4 WHEREAS, The killing of religious or political prisoners
5 for the purpose of selling their organs for transplant is an
6 egregious and intolerable violation of the fundamental right to
7 life; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we condemn the persecution of Falun Gong, a traditional
11 Buddhist-based meditation practice whose core principles are
12 truthfulness, compassion, and tolerance, as it reaches the 21
13 year mark since the Chinese Communist Party launched a
14 systematic and brutal campaign to "eradicate" the spiritual
15 discipline of Falun Gong; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we encourage the medical community in the
17 United States to help raise awareness of unethical organ
18 transplant practices in China; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we condemn the practice of state-sanctioned
20 forced organ harvesting in the People's Republic of China.