

House Concurrent Resolution No. 60

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MORRIS.

5026H.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, extensive and credible reports have revealed mass killing of prisoners of
2 conscience in the People's Republic of China, primarily practitioners of the spiritual-based
3 exercises of Falun Gong, but also other religious and ethnic minority groups, in order to obtain
4 organs for transplants; and
5

6 **WHEREAS**, the organ transplantation system in China does not comply with the World
7 Health Organization's Guiding Principles of traceability and transparency in organ procurement
8 pathways, and the government of the People's Republic of China has resisted independent
9 scrutiny of the system; and
10

11 **WHEREAS**, traditional Chinese custom requires bodies to be preserved intact after
12 death. Despite rare voluntary organ donation, however, China's transplantation industry
13 significantly increased since 2000; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, the 2017 Freedom House Report, "The Battle for China's Spirit", states that
16 "Available evidence suggests that forced extraction of organs from Falun Gong detainees for sale
17 in transplant operations has occurred on a large scale and may be continuing"; and
18

19 **WHEREAS**, an investigative report, published in June 2016, conducted by human rights
20 attorney, David Matas; former Canadian secretary of state for Asia-Pacific, David Kilgour; and
21 journalist, Ethan Gutmann estimates that China is performing 60,000 to 100,000 transplants per
22 year as opposed to 10,000 transplants claimed by the Chinese government, which is "an
23 industrial-scale, state-directed organ transplantation system, controlled through national policies
24 and funding, and implicating both the military and civilian healthcare systems"; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, China's Liver Transplant Registry System indicated that more than twenty-
27 five percent of cases were emergency transplants, for which an organ was found within days or
28 even hours. Wait times for nonemergency liver transplants were usually quoted in weeks. Most
29 patients in other countries have to wait years for a transplant; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Chinese government claims that ninety percent of China's organ
31 transplant sources come from executed prisoners. However, the number of executions has
32 dropped ten percent annually since 2002 and is far less than the number of transplants taking
33 place. The government has never acknowledged the sourcing of organs from prisoners of
34 conscience; and

35

36 **WHEREAS**, Falun Gong, a spiritual practice involving meditative "qigong" exercises
37 and centered on the values of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance, became immensely
38 popular in China in the 1990s, with multiple estimates placing the number of practitioners at
39 upwards of 70 million; and

40

41 **WHEREAS**, in July 1999, the Chinese Communist Party launched an intensive,
42 nationwide persecution, including physical and mental torture, designed to eradicate the spiritual
43 practice of Falun Gong, reflecting the party's long-standing intolerance of large independent civil
44 society groups; and

45

46 **WHEREAS**, since 1999, hundreds of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been
47 detained extralegally in Chinese reeducation-through-labor camps, detention centers, and prisons,
48 where torture, abuse, and implausible medical exams and blood tests on Falun Gong practitioners
49 are routine; and

50

51 **WHEREAS**, Freedom House reported in 2015 that Falun Gong practitioners comprise
52 the largest portion of prisoners of conscience in China and face an elevated risk of dying or being
53 killed in custody; and

54

55 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Committee Against Torture and the Special Rapporteur
56 on Torture have expressed concern over the allegations of organ harvesting from Falun Gong
57 prisoners and have called on the Government of the People's Republic of China to increase
58 accountability and transparency in the organ transplant system and punish those responsible for
59 abuses; and

60

61 **WHEREAS**, in June 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously
62 passed House Resolution 343, condemning the systematic, state-sanctioned organ harvesting
63 from Falun Gong and other prisoners of conscience; and

64

65 **WHEREAS**, the killing of religious or political prisoners for the purpose of selling their
66 organs for transplant is an egregious and intolerable violation of the fundamental right to live;
67 and

68

69 **WHEREAS**, organ tourism to China should not be shielded by medical confidentiality,
70 but openly monitored. No nation should allow its citizens to go to China for organs until China
71 has allowed a full investigation into organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience, both past and
72 present:

73

74 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
75 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
76 concurring therein, hereby:

77

78 (1) Call on the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end the
79 practice of organ harvesting from all prisoners and prisoners of conscience, and explicitly from
80 Falun Gong prisoners of conscience and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups;

81

82 (2) Call upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end the
83 18-year persecution of the Falun Gong and release all Falun Gong practitioners and other
84 prisoners of conscience;

85

86 (3) Call upon the President of the United States to undertake a full and transparent
87 investigation by the United States Department of State into organ transplant practices in the
88 People's Republic of China, and to call for the prosecution of those found to have engaged in
89 such unethical practices;

90

91 (4) Encourage the medical community of Missouri to engage in educating colleagues and
92 residents of Missouri about the risks of travel to China for organ transplants so as to help prevent
93 Missouri citizens from unwittingly becoming involved in murder in the form of forced organ
94 harvesting from prisoners of conscience; and

95

96 (5) Agree to take measures to ban the entry of those who have participated in illegal
97 removal of human tissues and organs, and seek prosecution of such individuals should they be
98 found on the soil of Missouri; and

99

100 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
101 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
102 President and Vice President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of
103 the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives,
104 the chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, the chair of the House Committee on
105 Foreign Relations, and the Missouri congressional delegation.

✓