

House Concurrent Resolution No. 7

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MORRIS.

0403H.02I

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

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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

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

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15 WHEREAS, the Department of State Country Report on Human Rights for China for
16 2011 stated, "Overseas and domestic media and advocacy groups continued to report instances
17 of organ harvesting, particularly from Falun Gong practitioners and Uighurs"; and

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19 WHEREAS, a new investigative report, published in June 2016, conducted by human
20 rights attorney David Matas, former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific David Kilgour,
21 and journalist Ethan Gutmann, estimated that China is performing 60,000 to 100,000 transplants
22 per 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

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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

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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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

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

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

80 (2) Call upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end the
81 17-year persecution of the Falun Gong and release all Falun Gong practitioners and other
82 prisoners of conscience;

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

87 (4) Agree to take measures to initiate a registry for residents of Missouri who travel
88 abroad to receive organ transplants; and

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

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93 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
94 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
95 President and Vice President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United
96 States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the chair of
97 the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, the chair of the House Committee on Foreign
98 Relations, and Missouri's Senators and Representatives in Congress.

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