

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 570

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding support for the formation of the Chinese Democracy Party (CDP) and to urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to guarantee the rights and safety of the CDP organizers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 2, 1998

Mr. ROHRABACHER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding support for the formation of the Chinese Democracy Party (CDP) and to urge the Government of the People's Republic of China to guarantee the rights and safety of the CDP organizers.

Whereas the establishment of the Chinese Democracy Party (CDP) on June 24, 1998, was the first attempt to officially register an opposition party in the People's Republic of China, leading toward the first multiparty system on mainland China since the founding of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas during the June 1998 visit of President Clinton to the People's Republic of China, the Chinese communist leadership indicated a commitment to consider further re-

forms and a full human rights dialogue with the international community;

Whereas during the September 1998 visit of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, to the People's Republic of China, the Government of the People's Republic of China promised to sign the United Nations Convention on Civil and Political Rights;

Whereas Article 35 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China guarantees the freedom of association for Chinese citizens;

Whereas during the visit of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, to the People's Republic of China, the Department of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China indicated that in Shandong Province the China Democracy Party might be able to register if the local affiliation of the Party had 50 members, the Party paid a registration fee of 50,000 yuan, and the resumes of party organizers and the address of the party's local office were submitted to the Department of Civil Affairs; and

Whereas immediately after Mary Robinson departed the People's Republic of China, Chinese authorities pronounced the China Democracy Party to be illegal and systematically intimidated and persecuted members of the Party by arresting and detaining them and engaging in other forms of police intimidation: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
- 2 resentatives that the United States—

1 (1) should publicly urge the People’s Republic
2 of China to abide by the articles of the United Na-
3 tions Convention on Civil and Political Rights;

4 (2) should publicly show its support and en-
5 couragement for political reforms in China, including
6 a peaceful transition to a multiparty political system;

7 (3) should publicly urge the People’s Republic
8 of China to permit the registration of the China De-
9 mocracy Party (CDP) without discrimination or pen-
10 alties for its organizers and members; and

11 (4) should urge the release from detention and
12 house arrest of all members of the China Democracy
13 Party and other peaceful advocates for democracy
14 and human rights and a cessation of intimidation
15 and persecution against advocates of democracy in
16 the People’s Republic of China.

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