

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 151

Expressing the sense of Congress that China release democratic activist Liu Xiaobo from imprisonment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2009

Mr. MINNICK (for himself and Mr. McCOTTER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that China release democratic activist Liu Xiaobo from imprisonment.

Whereas Liu Xiaobo has caused meaningful impact in China's institutions and he has inspired millions of people to stare down their government and demand change;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo has done all of this alone, under the isolation of house arrest and with almost no contact with the outside world;

Whereas on December 10, 2008, Liu Xiaobo led 302 determined colleagues in issuing a manifesto calling on the Chinese Communist Party to abandon totalitarian government in favor of democracy;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo was arrested shortly before the manifesto was released, and has been detained ever since;

Whereas the document which caused him to be confined in a windowless room, without access to books or writing materials, is as simple as those in the founding documents of this country which have inspired us all for over 200 years;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo wrote that “The most fundamental principles of democracy are that the people are sovereign, and that the people select their own government.”;

Whereas Liu Xiaobo signed his name to those simple but powerful words despite having already spent two years in prison for his part in the 1989 protests in Tiananmen Square, and three years in a work camp for challenging China’s one-party rule; and

Whereas Liu Xiaobo’s leadership has inspired millions of people in China and the world: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
- 2 *concurring),* That it is the sense of Congress that China’s
- 3 Government immediately release Liu Xiaobo and begin
- 4 making strides toward true representative democracy.

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