

**SEC. 3. SENTENCING COMMISSION GUIDELINES.**

Within 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, or within 120 days after the first date on which there is a sufficient number of voting members of the Sentencing Commission to constitute a quorum, whichever is later, the Commission shall promulgate emergency guideline amendments to implement section 2(g) of the No Electronic Theft (NET) Act (28 U.S.C. 994 note) in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 21(a) of the Sentencing Act of 1987, as though the authority under that Act had not expired.

**SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by section 2 shall apply to any action brought on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, regardless of the date on which the alleged activity that is the basis of the action occurred.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONDEMNING RECENT HATE CRIMES IN ILLINOIS AND INDIANA

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 254) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning recent hate crimes in Illinois and Indiana, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

## H. RES. 254

Whereas diversity and tolerance are essential principles of an open and free society;

Whereas all people deserve to be safe within their communities, free to live, work and worship without fear of violence and bigotry;

Whereas crimes motivated by hatred against African-Americans, Jews, Asian-Americans, or other groups undermine the fundamental values of our Nation;

Whereas the communities of Skokie, the West Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago, Northbrook, and Urbana, Illinois, and Bloomington, Indiana, were terrorized by hate crimes over the Fourth of July weekend, a time when our Nation celebrates its commitment to freedom and liberty;

Whereas hate crimes tear at the fabric of American society, leave scars on victims and their families, and weaken our sense of community and purpose;

Whereas Ricky Byrdsong, at age 43, was a loving husband and father, an inspiring community leader, and a former basketball coach at Northwestern University;

Whereas Ricky Byrdsong was a man of deep religious faith who touched the lives of countless people and whose death is mourned by his family, friends, and community, and by the Nation;

Whereas Won-Joon Yoon, at age 26, was the only son in a family of 6, and was soon to become a doctoral student in Economics at Indiana University;

Whereas Won-Joon Yoon was a man who, through his demeanor and firmly-held Chris-

tian beliefs, positively influenced those who knew him, and whose death is mourned by his family, friends, and community, and by the citizens of the United States and Korea; and

Whereas individuals who commit crimes based on hate and bigotry must be held responsible for their actions and must be stopped from spreading violence: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the senseless violence that occurred in Illinois and Indiana over the Fourth of July weekend;

(2) conveys its deepest sympathy to the victims and their families;

(3) condemns the culture of hate and the hate groups that foster such violent acts;

(4) commends the communities of Illinois and Indiana for uniting to condemn these acts of hate in their neighborhoods;

(5) commends the efforts of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officials; and

(6) reaffirms its commitment to a society that fully respects and protects all people, regardless of race, religion, or ethnicity.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT CHINESE GOVERNMENT SHOULD STOP PERSECUTION OF FALUN GONG PRACTITIONERS

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on International Relations be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 218) expressing the sense of the Congress that the Government of the People's Republic of China should stop its persecution of Falun Gong practitioners, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman from New York to explain the bill.

Mr. GILMAN. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 218, calling on the People's Republic of China to stop persecuting the Falun Gong practitioners which was introduced by the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), the chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights. During the past few weeks, the leaders of the People's Republic of China have arrested, jailed, beaten and tortured thousands of peaceful followers of Falun Gong, a religious synthesis of traditional Chinese physical exercises and Buddhist and Taoist teachings. Adherents to this meditation movement have done nothing more than express their humble belief that people should be kind to one another and work on themselves to

change their own lives. They are non-violent and have not adopted any so-called foreign beliefs. They do not promote nor do they use drugs. They are not a cult. They only want to meditate, take their lives into their own hands and attempt to live productive and peaceful lives.

What in the world can be wrong with that? What sort of government finds that so threatening that it would have these good citizens arrested, tortured, dismissed from their job? What sort of government sends peaceful religious practitioners to labor camps and creates such circumstances whereby some of them felt that they had to take their own lives?

The answer to those questions is that the government of the People's Republic of China is doing just that. The same government that earlier this week threatened the State of Israel if its leaders had the audacity to meet with its holiness, the Dalai Lama. It is the same government that the Clinton administration so desperately wanted to be accepted as a member of the WTO. And it is the very same government that the State Department continues to promote military exchanges with.

Mr. Speaker, the government of China is led by those who do not share our beliefs in what is right and what is wrong. They have an agenda that is not moral. They have a purpose that is not peaceful. By their repression of Falun Gong, they demonstrate that they will use any means and methods to promote their effort to stay in power.

The repression of religion in China is a serious threat to all that civilized people hold dear. If our government and other democracies around the world continue business as usual with such a regime, we will have only ourselves to blame for the ultimate consequences.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 218.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, further reserving the right to object, I rise in strong support of this resolution which was introduced by my colleague on the Committee on International Relations and chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and congratulate him on his good work.

Most Americans, and, for that matter, most Members of Congress probably had not heard of Falun Gong until last summer when the Chinese dictatorship banned and started throwing thousands of people in jail for practicing it. It is hardly surprising people that Chinese is systematically arresting, torturing and even killing its own citizens for wanting to practice their faith, which is what Falun Gong is. This is the same gang of dictators, after all, that persecutes Christians, Muslims and Buddhists and winks at forced abortions.

But even though this latest purge is completely in character, it is a perfect