

Abdukirim, were also arbitrarily detained by Chinese security forces in August 1999 in Urumqi, without any justification or evidence of their involvement in criminal activities of any kind; and

Whereas on November 20, 1999, Ablikim Abdyirim was sent for 2 years to the Wulabai Reeducation Through Labor School, without charge or judicial review, in clear violation of international human rights standards, and Kahriman Abdukirim received a 3-year sentence in the same facility: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the President should express to the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China the sense of the Senate that Ms. Kadeer, her family members and business associate, should be immediately and unconditionally released.

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, China's terrible treatment of ethnic minority Uighurs, a Muslim community in the northwestern province of Xinjiang, has not received the same level of international attention as that of the Tibetans. The Uighurs are also subject to ongoing repression and violations of their internationally recognized rights of free expression, association and belief. The Chinese government is cracking down on a separatist movement in Xinjiang as part of its overall strategy of maintaining "stability" at all costs. According to human rights organizations such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, over the past year China has used draconian measures including public sentencing rallies, long prison terms, and—alarmingly—a rising number of executions of suspected "splittists."

In an apparent attempt to stop the flow of information overseas about this crackdown, Chinese security officials arbitrarily detained a prominent Uighur businesswoman, Ms. Rebiya Kadeer, this past August in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang. Her husband is a U.S. resident who broadcasts on Radio Free Asia and the Voice of America, championing the cause of his people.

For years, Ms. Kadeer has been praised by the Chinese government for her efforts to promote development in Xinjiang, including a project helping Uighur women develop their own businesses. She has also been praised in the Wall Street Journal for her business savvy. She owns a department store in Urumqi as well as a profitable trading company.

But now she has been put out of business, is being held in prison awaiting trial, charged last September with "illegally offering state secrets across the border." Even worse, her son and her secretary were also detained and have already been sent to a labor camp. If Ms. Kadeer is convicted, she could be sent to prison for many years.

Ms. Kadeer's case demonstrates that even business people in China are not safe from the arbitrary use of state power. As China tries to become a member of the World Trade Organization, this reality is crucial to bear in mind—both for Chinese and foreign investors.

I urge my colleagues to call on the President to seek the immediate, unconditional release of Ms. Kadeer, her son, and secretary. Today I offer a sense of the Senate resolution urging their release, and hope it can be considered quickly and adopted unanimously by this body.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2000, in open session, to receive testimony on the situation in Bosnia and Kosovo.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 2, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. to hear testimony regarding the status of Internal Revenue Service Reform.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Public Health, be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Gene Therapy: Promoting Patient Safety" during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. To hold an open hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, February 2, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. To hold an closed hearing on intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING JIM ATKINSON

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a true Montana hero—Jim Atkinson. His death, after a long battle with leukemia last December, was a great loss to me personally and to the State of Montana.

You know, we always talk about how important education is. Especially here in Congress, we talk about how children are the future and that we need to invest in that future, and that's true. But Jim Atkinson did more than just talk about education; he lived it. He was on the front lines every day, as a principal at Charlo Elementary and later as the vice president of the Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals.

As an Administrator in the Montana school system, Jim was instrumental in the effort to modernize our State's schools. He realized quickly how important technology would be to students, and set up a computer lab for the Charlo school. Without people like Jim all our talk about education wouldn't amount to anything. His foresight and dedication to education in Montana made him a true hero. But there was more to Jim than just his job.

Originally a native of Abington, PA, it was the outdoors and the land that brought Jim to Montana. He was an accomplished mountain climber and fly fisherman. Montana's rugged peaks and blue ribbon trout streams had a hold on Jim's soul. And Jim was a true family man. He is survived by his wife, Luan, and his two sons, Sam and Tyson.

Mr. President, Jim was a young man. He was only forty-eight at the time of his death. He spent his life serving his community, educating children, raising his family and enjoying the land of our majestic State. Many men would be lucky to accomplish this much in a hundred years. I expect Jim's legacy will last much longer than that.●

RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW E. SCHLIMME

• Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, across America, buildings are named for great Americans and fallen heroes so that the living might memorialize the legacy of those who have died. Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew E. Schlimme was just such an American. He was an extraordinary hero in service to his nation and fellow man.

Raised on a farm in Southeast Missouri, Matthew knew the value of hard work, the necessity for respect and consideration of others, and the need to overcome obstacles. One such obstacle he had from an early age was a fear of the water. Not only did Matthew join the U.S. Coast Guard to overcome his fear, but in doing so he served his country and saved a life.

On February 12, 1997, Officer Schlimme and two other Coast Guardsmen were thrown overboard in 24-foot seas while attempting to rescue a sailboat. Before going overboard, Schlimme was able to buckle in Seaman Apprentice Benjamin Wingo. Mr. Wingo was the sole survivor. Officer Schlimme lost his life, but gained the thanks of a nation.

Mr. Schlimme's parents, Larry and Haroletta Schlimme, of Burfordville,