
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 1052 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, CORBIN, AUMENT, V. BROWN, MAHONEY, THOMAS,
MILLARD, DAVIS, JAMES, PICKETT, KAUFFMAN, MAJOR, SWANGER,
ROCK, KIRKLAND, GILLEN AND MURT, OCTOBER 3, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 3, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the medical community of this Commonwealth to help
2 raise awareness of unethical organ transplant practices in
3 China.

4 WHEREAS, Falun Gong is a spiritual practice with key values
5 of truthfulness, compassion and forbearance for achieving
6 physical and spiritual well-being through exercise and
7 meditation; and

8 WHEREAS, Since July 1999, Falun Gong practitioners have been
9 persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party, as documented by the
10 United States Department of State, the United States Commission
11 on International Religious Freedom, Amnesty International, Human
12 Rights Watch and many other governmental and third-party
13 organizations; and

14 WHEREAS, Persecution of Falun Gong practitioners involves the
15 widespread use of torture, forced labor work, brainwashing and
16 other abuses in extralegal reeducation-through-labor camps,
17 detention centers and prisons; and

1 WHEREAS, Prisoners are forced to undergo medical exams, blood
2 testing, urine testing and x-rays, despite being tortured; and

3 WHEREAS, The organ transplantation system in China does not
4 comply with the World Health Organization's requirement of
5 transparency and traceability in organ procurement pathways; and

6 WHEREAS, The People's Republic of China implemented
7 regulations in 1984 that permitted the harvesting of organs from
8 executed prisoners; and

9 WHEREAS, Former Vice Minister of Health, Huang Jiefu,
10 admitted publicly that more than 90% of transplant organs
11 extracted from deceased donors stemmed from executed prisoners
12 in China; and

13 WHEREAS, Organs were forcibly harvested from Falun Gong
14 practitioners in detention centers and prisons without
15 voluntary and informed consent; and

16 WHEREAS, It is estimated that since 1999, more than 1 million
17 Falun Gong practitioners have been detained and that
18 approximately 65,000 Falun Gong practitioners have been killed
19 for their organs; and

20 WHEREAS, Hospitals receive organs from these prisons and the
21 harvested organs are then used for transplants; and

22 WHEREAS, Recipients for these transplants are Chinese or
23 individuals from abroad, including United States citizens; and

24 WHEREAS, The Government of the People's Republic of China
25 continues to deny reports that many organs are taken without the
26 consent of prisoners, yet prevents independent verification of
27 its transplant system; and

28 WHEREAS, In June 2001, Chinese doctor Wang Guoqi testified
29 before the United States House of Representatives International
30 Relations Subcommittee on International Organizations and Human

1 Rights that hospitals work in collusion with state security
2 agencies to extract organs from executed prisoners without
3 written consent of the organ donors and that these transplants
4 were a lucrative source of income; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States Department of State, in its 2011
6 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices stated, "Overseas and
7 domestic media and advocacy groups continued to report instances
8 of organ harvesting, particularly from Falun Gong practitioners
9 and Uighurs"; and

10 WHEREAS, In May 2012, the World Organization to Investigate
11 the Persecution of Falun Gong released telephone transcripts and
12 audio recordings of conversations between undercover
13 investigators and senior Chinese Communist Party officials, in
14 which several officials indicated that central authorities were
15 aware of or involved in organ harvesting from Falun Gong
16 prisoners; and

17 WHEREAS, Voluntary and informed consent is the precondition
18 for ethical organ donation and international medical
19 organizations state that prisoners deprived of their freedom are
20 not in the position to give consent; and

21 WHEREAS, The practice of sourcing organs from prisoners is a
22 violation of ethical guidelines in medicine; and

23 WHEREAS, The killing of prisoners for the purpose of selling
24 their organs for transplant is an intolerable violation of the
25 fundamental right to life; therefore be it

26 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call upon the
27 Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end
28 the practice of forced organ harvesting from all prisoners,
29 particularly from Falun Gong prisoners and members of other
30 religious and ethnic minority groups; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call upon the
2 Government of the People's Republic of China to increase
3 accountability and transparency in the organ transplant system
4 and punish those responsible for abuses; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the United
6 States Government to commence a full and transparent
7 investigation into organ transplant practices in the People's
8 Republic of China; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call upon the
10 United States Government to prohibit any doctors involved in
11 unethical organ procurement or transplantation surgery using
12 organs harvested from living prisoners in China from gaining
13 entry into the United States; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage the
15 medical community of the Commonwealth to help raise awareness of
16 unethical organ transplant practices in China.