

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DENOUNCING AND URGING THE CESSATION OF THE DETENTION OF THE
UIGHUR PEOPLE AND DESTRUCTION OF RELIGIOUS SITES AND URGING
THAT THE UIGHUR PEOPLE BE ALLOWED TO ENGAGE IN PEACEFUL
RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL PRACTICES.

1 WHEREAS, the State places a high value on cultural and
2 religious diversity; and

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4 WHEREAS, as a community, the State is committed to
5 encouraging these values in other states and countries; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Washington Post recently reported that a
8 cultural genocide is taking place in the province of Xinjiang,
9 located in Western China; and

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11 WHEREAS, that region is home to over eleven million
12 Uighurs, an ethnically Turkic and religiously Muslim people; and

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14 WHEREAS, until the most recent decade, the Chinese
15 Community Party authorized the study of Uighur culture, vetted
16 the imams, and approved of the religious and cultural practices;
17 and

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19 WHEREAS, over the past few years, the region has been
20 experiencing a systematic campaign to eliminate the Uighur
21 culture and practices; and

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23 WHEREAS, based on the data collected by human rights groups
24 and the United States, between one and three million Uighurs are
25 being detained in what the Chinese government calls
26 deradicalization camps; and

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28 WHEREAS, within these camps, it is reported that imams are
29 shackled, and others are forced to renounce their faith; and



1 WHEREAS, it has further been reported that Muslims outside
2 of the camps are forced to shave, eat during Ramadan, drink and
3 smoke, and are barred from praying, studying the Koran, or
4 making the pilgrimage to Mecca, all culturally important
5 practices; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Chinese government has implemented an all-
8 encompassing surveillance system to ensure compliance, involving
9 facial recognition cameras, checkpoints, and the placement of
10 ethnic majority Han Chinese in Uighur households; and

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12 WHEREAS, families of Uighur people who flee the country are
13 being detained; and

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15 WHEREAS, thousands of Muslim religious sites, including
16 mosques, shrines, and cemeteries, have been destroyed and are
17 continuing to be eradicated; now, therefore,

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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
20 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
21 Representatives concurring, that the Legislature joins over
22 twenty countries in denouncing the detainment and
23 deculturization efforts of the Uighur by Chinese authorities;
24 and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
27 Chinese government to adhere to the United Nations Declaration
28 of Human Rights; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
31 Chinese government to cease all destruction of religious Muslim
32 sites, and cease all detention of Uighur people; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
35 Chinese government to allow the Uighur people to engage in
36 peaceful religious and cultural practices; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of
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S.C.R. NO. 155

1 Hawaii's congressional delegation and Ambassador to the United
2 States of the People's Republic of China.

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OFFERED BY:

Karl Rhoads

[Signature]

Ross H. Bell

[Signature]

