



Northumberland County Board of Supervisors
RESOLUTION

TO EDUCATE NORTHUMBERLAND RESIDENTS AND MEDICAL COMMUNITY ON THE RISKS OF TRAVELING TO CHINA FOR ORGAN TRANSPLANT IN LIGHT OF RECENT REPORTS OF STATE-SPONSORED ORGAN HARVESTING FROM PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE.

WHEREAS, extensive and credible reports have revealed mass killing of prisoners of conscience in the People's Republic of China, primarily practitioners of the Chinese spiritual practice of Falun Gong, but also other religious and ethnic minority groups, in order to obtain organs for transplants; and

WHEREAS, The China Tribunal, an independent tribunal sitting in London chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice, who was a prosecutor at the international criminal tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, concluded on Jun 18, 2019, in a unanimous determination at the end of its year-long hearings, that the killing of detainees in China for organ transplants is continuing and victims include imprisoned followers of the Falun Gong movement; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Freedom House report, "The Battle for China's Spirit," states that "available evidence suggests that forced extraction of organs from Falun Gong detainees for sale in transplant operations has occurred on a large scale and may be continuing"; and

WHEREAS, an investigative report published in June 2016 by human rights attorney David Matas, former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific, David Kilgour, and journalist Ethan Gutmann, estimated that China is performing transplants at a rate amounting to "an industrial-scale, state-directed organ transplantation system, controlled through national policies and funding, and implicating both the military and civilian healthcare systems"; and

WHEREAS, Falun Gong, a spiritual practice involving meditative "qigong" exercises and centered on the values of truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance, became immensely popular in China in the late 1990s with multiple estimates placing the number of practitioners at upwards of seventy million (70,000,000); and

WHEREAS, in July 1999, the Chinese Communist Party launched an intensive, nationwide persecution designed to eradicate the spiritual practice of Falun Gong. Hundreds of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have been detained extralegally in Chinese reeducation-through-labor camps, detention centers, and prisons, where physical and mental torture is common.

WHEREAS, in June 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed House Resolution 343, condemning the systemic, state-sanctioned organ harvesting from practitioners of Falun Gong and other prisoners of conscience; and

WHEREAS, there has been little media coverage of this problem yet dozens of Northumberland citizens petitioned the Northumberland Board of Supervisors to take up this matter, and

WHEREAS, Northumberland residents should be fully informed of the organ source in China before they make the decision to engage in organ transplant tourism in China and Northumberland County Board should assist in raising awareness in this regard;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Northumberland County Board of Supervisors, that we condemn, in the strongest possible terms, the persecution of Falun Gong and the state-sponsored organ harvesting of all prisoners of conscience currently being carried out by the Chinese Communist regime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the United States government, to thoroughly investigate organ transplant practices in China and take all reasonable steps to end the practice of nonconsensual organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the residents and the medical community servicing Northumberland and the immediate region be informed about the risks or travel to China for organ transplants to help prevent local citizens from becoming accomplices in state-sponsored forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be provided to the Governor of Virginia, Virginia's General Assembly, Virginia's congressional delegation and two U.S. Senators, and the Virginia Department of Health.

Adopted on this day, December 9, 2021.


Mr. Richard F. Haynie, Chairman for the
Northumberland County Board of Supervisors



*Forced Organ Harvesting
Photo Credit: nypost.com*

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY NEWS ORGAN HARVESTING CONDEMNED

The highlight of the December Supervisors Meeting was the approval of a Resolution repudiating the involuntary harvesting of organs by the Chinese Communist Party perpetrated against minorities in China. The Resolution was introduced by Connie Reed who was accompanied by a Chinese woman named Chunyan Wang who did not speak.

Mrs. Wang was a practitioner of Falun Gong, a spiritual belief system involving meditation, moral teaching and exercises that is banned in China. Practitioners are ruthlessly persecuted including forced organ harvesting which is a multimillion dollar enterprise.

I was first alerted to the Resolution by Tiny Tang who is a Fairfax County Resident. Her email of December 13th follows:

"My name is Tiny Tang, originally from China and now a resident of Virginia for the past 23 years. I have an important news story to share with you."

Last Thursday (12/9), on the eve of International Human Rights Day, Northumberland County unanimously passed a resolution to warn residents of the risks of traveling to China for an organ transplants. This is because of the Chinese regime's practice of forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience. The resolution also condemned the persecution of Falun Gong by the Chinese Communist Party. This was the 24th such resolution passed by local governments in Virginia this year.

For many years, the Chinese regime has used forced organ harvesting as a means of persecuting Falun Gong practitioners and other prisoners of conscience. This issue was reported briefly in the major media two years ago, but the story was quickly forgotten. Or was it buried, since China routinely denies media corporations access to its markets in retaliation for "unfavorable coverage"?

Falun Gong practitioners are trying to raise awareness about forced organ harvesting in China by reaching out to people at the grassroots level. Here in Virginia, 24 local governments have responded favorably to these efforts by passing resolutions condemning forced organ harvesting and warning residents of the dangers of traveling to China for a transplant. Many local residents signed petitions in support of the resolutions throughout the Commonwealth. You can view a list of the local governments here along with the resolutions.

At last Thursday's meeting in Northumberland County, Ms. Chunyan Wang, a Falun Gong survivor, shared her experience of the persecution in China. After she was reported to authorities for telling people the truth about Falun Gong, the police killed her husband as he tried to protect her. She was imprisoned for 7 years in a labor camp, where she was forced to work for up to 18 hours a day. Among the items she was forced to make were jackets, and she displayed two similar jackets at the Northumberland meeting. While in the labor camp, she was also blood-tested -- a method used to determine organ compatibility -- as the Chinese regime considered her a potential organ "donor." There are quite a few Falun Gong survivors living in Virginia."