



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
RICHMOND

DAVID L. BULOVA  
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THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:  
GENERAL LAWS (CHAIR)  
EDUCATION  
APPROPRIATIONS  
AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES

July 29, 2020

The Honorable Michael Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
United States Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Religious Persecution and Forced Organ Harvesting in the People's Republic of China

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This July marks 21 years since the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) launched an intensive, nation-wide persecution to eradicate the spiritual practice of Falun Gong. In addition to mental and physical torture, the immoral practice of non-consenting organ harvesting by the CCP has also been documented. Today, the undersigned members of the Virginia General Assembly write to request forceful, and sustained action by the United States to protect religious liberty and to bring an end to this inhumane practice.

We recognize and appreciate the bi-partisan efforts already taken to raise awareness of this tragedy, including House Resolution 343 (2016, Rep. Ros-Lehtinen) and Senate Resolution 274 (2019, Sen. Menendez). These resolutions detail in stark terms the horror being inflicted on practitioners of Falun Gong and other religious and ethnic minority groups in China. We also appreciate your statements that religious freedom is a top priority for the Administration and that the United States "will not stand idly by while abusers of this first American freedom persecute, discriminate against, and revile people because of their beliefs."<sup>1</sup>

While the resolutions provide the history of persecution and cite investigations by well-respected individuals and organizations, they cannot compare to the powerful, gut-wrenching stories directly from victim's families and survivors. These are just a few excerpts from a survivor now living in Fairfax, Virginia: "Left in death bed with four limbs tied." "Handcuffed and hung in painful position." "Violently force-fed." "High-voltage electric shock." "Not allowed to sleep for three days." We cannot even imagine having to endure this torture. And fortunately, from the safety of our own nation, we do not have to. But our position affords us with an even greater responsibility to act.

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<sup>1</sup> Secretary Pompeo Tweet, June 10, 2020.

In addition, we ask that the Department of State take action here at home to help educate Americans about the practice of non-consensual organ harvesting in China. Organ transplants are a marvel of science and can be a selfless gesture that gives the gift of life. However, organ transplants should never be conducted under force or duress. We are concerned that patients from the United States who go to China for organ transplants do not know that the organs they may receive are from political prisoners. Increasing our own education efforts will help to reduce the demand for this immoral practice.

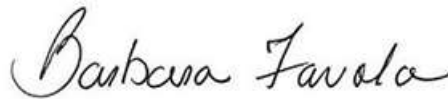
In China, people are risking their lives to raise awareness of the truth. We are writing in solidarity with the survivors and those who can no longer speak for themselves. We ask for your leadership, and the considerable leverage of the United States, to ensure that next year we are not observing 22 years of persecution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



David L. Bulova  
37<sup>th</sup> House District



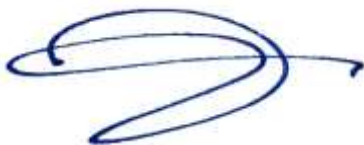
Barbara A. Favola  
31<sup>st</sup> Senate District



Kaye Kory  
38<sup>th</sup> House District



John J. Bell  
13<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Dawn M. Adams  
68<sup>th</sup> House District



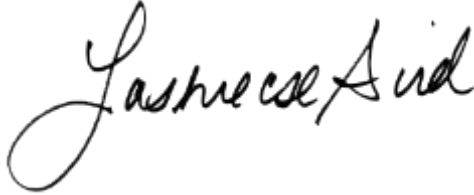
Jennifer B. Boysko  
33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District



Leslie (Les) R. Adams  
16<sup>th</sup> House District



R. Creigh Deeds  
25<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Lashrecse D. Aird  
63<sup>rd</sup> House District



Siobhan S. Dunnavant  
12<sup>th</sup> Senate District



John G. Avoli  
20<sup>th</sup> House District



Ghazala F. Hashmi  
10<sup>th</sup> Senate District



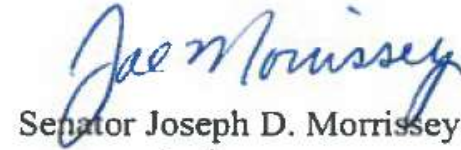
Hala S. Ayala  
51<sup>st</sup> House District



David W. Marsden  
37<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Robert S. Bloxom, Jr.  
100<sup>th</sup> House District



Senator Joseph D. Morrissey  
16<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Ronnie Campbell  
24<sup>th</sup> House District



Mark J. Peake  
22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District



Mark L. Cole  
88<sup>th</sup> House District



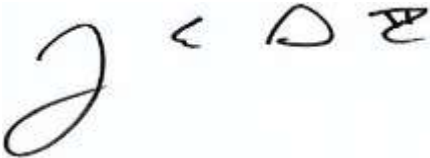
J. Chapman Petersen  
34<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Karrie K. Delaney  
67<sup>th</sup> House District



Scott A. Surovell  
36<sup>th</sup> Senate District



James E. Edmunds, II  
60<sup>th</sup> House District



Jen A. Kiggans  
7<sup>th</sup> Senate District



Matthew C. Farris  
59<sup>th</sup> House District



Kenneth R. Plum  
36<sup>th</sup> House District



Nicholas J. Freitas  
30<sup>th</sup> House District



Sam Rasoul  
11<sup>th</sup> House District



Hyland F. (Buddy) Fowler  
55<sup>th</sup> House District



Mark D. Sickles  
43<sup>rd</sup> House District



Gwendolyn W. (Wendy) Gooditis  
10<sup>th</sup> House District



Suhas Subramanyam  
87<sup>th</sup> House District



Elizabeth R. Guzman  
31<sup>st</sup> House District



Kathy KL Tran  
42<sup>nd</sup> House District



Christopher T. Head  
17<sup>th</sup> House District



Schuyler T. Van Valkenburg  
72<sup>nd</sup> House District



Daniel I. Helmer  
40<sup>th</sup> House District



Wendell S. Walker  
23<sup>rd</sup> House District



David A. LaRock  
33<sup>rd</sup> House District



Lee R. Ware  
65<sup>th</sup> House District



Delores L. McQuinn  
70<sup>th</sup> House District



Vivian E. Watts  
39<sup>th</sup> House District



John J. McGuire, III  
56<sup>th</sup> House District



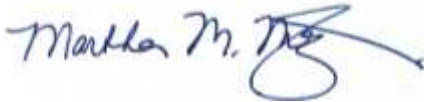
Michael J. Webert  
18<sup>th</sup> House District



Jason S. Miyares  
82<sup>nd</sup> House District



Rodney T. Willett  
73<sup>rd</sup> House District



Martha M. Mugler  
91<sup>st</sup> House District



Tony O. Wilt  
26<sup>th</sup> House District



Michael P. Mullin  
93<sup>rd</sup> House District

Copies to:

Honorable Tim Kaine, U.S. Senator  
Honorable Mark Warner, U.S. Senator  
Honorable Rob Wittman, Congressman, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Honorable Elaine Luria, Congresswoman, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Honorable Bobby Scott, Congressman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Honorable Donald McEachin, Congressman, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Denver Riggleman, Congressman, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Ben Cline, Congressman, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Abigail Spanberger, Congresswoman, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Don Beyer, Congressman, 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Morgan Griffith, Congressman, 9<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Jennifer Wexton, Congresswoman, 10<sup>th</sup> District  
Honorable Gerry Connolly, Congressman, 11<sup>th</sup> District