S.R. NO. 6

JAN 24 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE AND PERSECUTION AGAINST MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE FALUN GONG IN CHINA.

WHEREAS, the Falun Gong is a spiritual movement which was outlawed in China in 1999; and

WHEREAS, the Falun Gong was initially hailed by government officials at its inception as a method of improving the health of the population, but quickly fell out of favor with the Communist party; and

WHEREAS, practitioners and supporters of Falun Gong have been arrested and punished in part because the Communist Party felt threatened by Falun Gong, whose members outnumber Communist Party members; and

WHEREAS, after the ban, Chinese authorities lodged a campaign of violent suppression that has been condemned by the international community, including the U.S. Department of State in an official U.S. Department of State Report in 2003; and

WHEREAS, the human rights atrocities perpetrated against the Falun Gong include labor camps and a secret concentration camp in Northeast China, which serves as an organ bank where organs are allegedly harvested from living Falun Gong practitioners; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that it expresses its strongest concern over the human rights abuses and persecution against members and practitioners of Falun Gong; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Embassy of the People's Republic of China; Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the U.S.

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Department of State, each member of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, and the Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of 2 Falun Gong. 3

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OFFERED BY: Tranne Chum aukland.