

~~Confidential~~

From: Dara Carlin, M.A. [breaking-the-silence@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2009 5:40 PM
To: HUS testimony
Subject: HR281/HCR309 to be heard Monday, March 23rd at 8:30am in Room 329
Importance: High

TO: Representative Mizuno, Chair
Representative Brower, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Human Services

**LATE
Testimony**

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
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DATE: March 23, 2009

RE: Support for HR281/HCR309

A quote from the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso:

"It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act."

Please act to denounce the human rights violations occurring in Tibet by supporting this proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Independent Domestic Violence Advocate

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**LATE
Testimony**

Testimony in Support of HCR 309
"Denouncing the Violation of Human Rights in Tibet"
March 23, 2009

With all my heart and soul, I strongly SUPPORT HCR 309. Even on my limited college student budget, I still regularly donate to the International Campaign for Tibet, because I believe no individual or group should be subject to such cultural, religious and political genocide. Just tonight I was on the ICT website and read about and saw footage of the recent police brutalities against Tibetans during protests against Chinese rule which clearly refutes China's denials of torture and beatings of prisoners in Tibet. These grotesque human rights abuses occurred even after the fiftieth anniversary of the Tibetan people's peaceful uprising against Communist China's repression in Tibet. Since last March widespread peaceful protests have erupted across the whole of Tibet. Most of the participants were youths born and brought up after 1959, who have not seen or experienced a free Tibet. However, the fact that they were driven by a firm conviction to serve the cause of Tibet that has continued from generation to generation is indeed a matter of pride. It will serve as a source of inspiration for those in the international community who take keen interest in the issue of Tibet. It certainly has inspired me, as a young activist and humanitarian, to continue the fight for the causes I believe in.

On March 10, 2009, U.S. Senator Russ Feingold released the following statement, "Standing up for human rights is not always easy, and I am pleased that the new administration appears to be committed to these critical values and to the importance of ensuring they play a central role in our foreign policies. I will continue my efforts to ensure human rights are a central part of our policy toward The People's Republic of China, and I urge the new administration to do so as well. China's oppression of the Tibetan people must end, and the U.S. has a critical role to play in helping Tibet regain its autonomy." Gone are the days that the international community can look the other way as this violence occurs. I strongly urge Hawai'i to lead the world in condemning these human rights atrocities, and advocating for peace, freedom, and autonomy for all the peoples of Tibet.

Signed

Sara S. Ortiz
2009

23 March,