

As we focus on this genocide against the Uyghurs, we must also remember Beijing's decades-long assault on human rights.

Those of us who have long been in this fight for human rights in China have seen a regime of terror and repression that has only intensified: from Tibet to Taiwan; to assaults on basic freedoms in Hong Kong and beyond; to jailing of journalists and detaining of dissidents; and more.

In Congress, for decades, we have taken strong bipartisan actions fighting for human rights in China.

That is why, in 1991, Democrats and Republicans stood up together for free speech during a visit to Tiananmen Square just 2 years after the government's infamous crackdown.

That is why, in 1993, in a bipartisan way, we convinced the world that China's dismal record on human rights disqualified the nation from hosting the 2000 Olympic Games.

That is why, in 2000, I took to this floor to urge my colleagues to block China from the World Trade Organization, arguing that we should not put deals ahead of ideals. China has not honored the agreement.

That is why, in 2015, working together, we had a Congressional delegation to Tibet to see the aspirations in the eyes of the schoolchildren who have endured China's and Beijing's intimidation.

That is why, in 2019, working together, we sounded the alarms as the Chinese Government locked up pro-democracy demonstrators in Hong Kong.

Democrats and Republicans, House and Senate, have come together to enact strong policies standing up for human rights in China, including: the Tibet Policy and Support Act, the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, and the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act; all enacted into law, signed into law.

For decades, many of us have fought against what they call normal trade relations with China, because, as the world's strongest economy, America has a moral duty to tie our trade relations with human rights.

When China joined the WTO 20 years ago this week, the world gave Beijing a blank check to prosper from its abuses while simply hoping it would change its behavior.

Many of us knew then, as we still know today, that this approach was fated for failure. Today's legislation will help right this wrong.

We must respond with more than legislation. We must show leadership.

As House Speaker, I applaud and support President Biden's strong leadership in announcing there will be no official U.S. presence at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

Allowing a country with an abysmal human rights record to host the games makes a mockery of the Olympic Charter, which states that the games should seek to foster "respect for universal and fundamental ethical principles."

Make no mistake: our athletes can and should be celebrated. But this year, we should celebrate them from home. They can be there; we should be home.

As noted, when I called for the diplomatic boycott last May, the world must not reward more than three decades of abusive and repressive actions by the Chinese Government by giving our official imprimatur to China.

I thank Mr. MCCAUL for his leadership, particularly in calling out the Olympic Committee for making this choice.

Mr. Speaker, today we have an opportunity to forge further progress in the fight for human rights in China, a fight that many of us have been extraordinarily proud to help lead over our careers in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, if we do not speak out for human rights in China because of commercial or economic ties, we lose all moral authority to speak out against human rights violations anywhere in the world.

We must never fail to live up to our sacred duty to safeguard the dignity and worth of every person and build a better future for generations to come.

Proudly, this legislation, all of it—Mr. MCCAUL's, Mr. MCGOVERN's, and Ms. WEXTON's leadership, the leadership of the chairman, Mr. MEEKS, and ranking member, Mr. MCCAUL, of the committee—has earned overwhelming bipartisan support when we passed it in the House last year. I hope we will do so again this year.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a strong vote for the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act and the other legislation that is before us this afternoon and do so asking for a very strong bipartisan vote so that we know that we will have the numbers to send a message to the Chinese Government that this is bipartisan, bicameral, on both sides of the Capitol, and a view shared by the President of the United States. I ask for an "aye" vote all around.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I just have these last remarks.

I also want to thank Mr. SMITH. As indicated by the Speaker, from the time that I have been in Congress, his focus has been on human rights around the world. As the Speaker indicated, and as I indicated with Mr. MCCAUL and you will see coming up with these other bills, we have worked collectively, leaving politics out of it, focused on leading the world. That is what I look forward to, locking arms, sending that message around the world that we are not going to allow slave labor to flourish and to exist on this planet.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, ending forced labor—and holding China accountable for these gross abuses of human rights—must be a global effort. America should lead the world in halting China's brutality, and all democracies around the world should join us.

As I've said many times, this is a completely bipartisan issue, as demonstrated by the over-

whelming bipartisan vote in the House on a similar bill in September 2020. The United States has no tolerance for China's human rights abuses, in Xinjiang or anywhere.

There are real challenges to further tighten the dragnet around China and force it to eliminate atrocities, while supporting legitimate trade. All of us agree: we want to create opportunities for our producers to comply with the law while removing forced labor from our global supply chains.

And just as important, we must urge our trading partners to work with us. Inexplicably, this entirely bipartisan issue has been pushed to the back burner, with Democrats delaying consideration for 14 months. And Ways & Means did not mark this bill up or update the trade provisions in any way. This is difficult to understand, because a core provision of this bill, which is the rebuttable presumption that importation of goods made in Xinjiang must be blocked because they are made with forced labor, is clearly in our Committee's jurisdiction.

This issue is not only bipartisan. It's bicameral. Both the House and the Senate have strong bills that send a clear and unequivocal message: the United States has zero tolerance for these abuses.

While I'm disappointed that this was delayed, taking strong action today is an important step.

Republicans support strong and effective legislation that addresses China's atrocities while supporting legitimate trade, and I look forward to working with the Senate to perfect our approach and enact this bill into law promptly.

It is vital that we stop the scourge of modern-day slavery in China.

□ 1415

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ESPAILLAT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1155, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE FAILED TO ADHERE TO ITS OWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITMENTS

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 837) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the International Olympic Committee failed to adhere to its own human rights commitments, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 837

Whereas, on November 2, 2021, 3-time Olympian Peng Shuai went missing after she said in a since-deleted post on Chinese social media site Weibo that she had been sexually assaulted and forced into a sexual relationship with Zhang Gaoli, who was the senior Vice Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (PRC) from 2013 to 2018;

Whereas PRC authorities have imposed a media and internet blackout of discussions of Peng's case, and the words "tennis" and the surname "Peng" have been censored online within China;

Whereas, on November 14, 2021, after Peng had not been seen or heard from for 12 days, Women's Tennis Association (WTA) CEO Steve Simon requested a "full and transparent" investigation into Peng's allegations;

Whereas the hashtag "#WhereIsPengShuai" trended across social media worldwide, with the exception of the PRC where it is censored;

Whereas, on November 17, 2021, the WTA received a statement purporting to be from Peng, recanting her abuse claim and saying "everything is fine";

Whereas in response, WTA CEO Steve Simon said the response "released today by Chinese state media concerning Peng Shuai only raises my concerns as to her safety and whereabouts";

Whereas in response, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) said in a statement that it was "encouraged by assurance that she is safe";

Whereas, on November 19 and 20, 2021, photos and videos of Peng appearing in her home, in a restaurant, and at a youth tennis event in Beijing emerged on Twitter accounts affiliated with government-run media, and at the same time, Peng has not spoken directly with the media or the WTA;

Whereas, on November 19, 2021, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said the White House is "deeply concerned" over Peng's disappearance and seeks "independent and verifiable proof" of her location and condition;

Whereas, on November 19, 2021, Liz Throssell, the spokesperson of the United Nations Human Rights office, told reporters "... it would be important to have proof of her whereabouts and wellbeing, and we would urge that there be an investigation with full transparency into her allegations of sexual assault";

Whereas, on November 21, 2021, the IOC said in a statement that its President, Thomas Bach, had a 30-minute video call with 3-time Olympian Peng Shuai, joined by a Chinese sports official and an IOC official;

Whereas the statement said that, during the call, Peng appeared to be "doing fine" and "relaxed", and said she "would like to have her privacy respected";

Whereas the IOC did not explain how the video call with Peng had been organized, given the difficulties other concerned parties have had reaching her;

Whereas, on November 30, 2021, IOC official Dick Pound in an interview with CNN defended the Chinese Government's handling of the situation and said the "unanimous conclusion" by IOC officials on the call is that Peng Shuai is "fine";

Whereas the annual report of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China for 2020 finds that gender-based violence in China remains a serious issue, and highly publicized cases of sexual assault continue to surface;

Whereas, on December 1, 2021, the WTA suspended all WTA tournaments in China and Hong Kong;

Whereas WTA chairman Steve Simon stated, "In good conscience, I don't see how I can ask our athletes to compete there when Peng Shuai is not allowed to communicate freely and has seemingly been pressured to contradict her allegation of sexual assault. Given the current state of affairs, I am also greatly concerned about the risks that all of our players and staff could face if we were to hold events in China in 2022.";

Whereas the PRC has repeatedly detained "#MeToo" activists in China and censored online and public discussion around sexual assault and harassment; and

Whereas athletes from the around the world are headed to Beijing for the Olympic games starting in February 2022: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the case of Peng Shuai is directly related to broader international concerns around the freedom of speech and safety of athletes participating in the 2022 Olympics in Beijing;

(2) the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) role in legitimizing the People's Republic of China's (PRC) claims about Peng's safety raise questions about the organization's ability and willingness to protect the rights of athletes participating in the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic games in Beijing;

(3) the PRC would help reduce concerns about athlete safety at the Beijing Olympics by assuring Peng's freedom and safety and investigating her allegations in a fair and transparent manner;

(4) the PRC should immediately take steps to—

(A) provide independent and verifiable proof of Peng's whereabouts and that she is safe;

(B) allow Peng to engage directly with the WTA and the United Nations to independently verify her safety and explain her absence from public life since making her allegation;

(C) open an independent and transparent investigation into Peng's allegations against former senior Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli;

(D) publicly commit to hold sexual violence abusers accountable;

(E) cease all censorship of reporting and discussions of Peng's case; and

(F) allow Peng to leave China if she so desires, and prevent any retaliation against family members remaining there;

(5) by acquiescing to the Chinese Communist Party's narrative, the IOC failed to adhere to its own human rights commitments and protect the safety and free speech of Olympic athletes;

(6) the IOC's conduct has undermined the efforts by the United States Government, human rights organizations, the Women's Tennis Association, and other international bodies and individuals to secure Peng's safety; and

(7) in an effort to regain lost public confidence, the IOC should publicly call on the Government of the PRC to undertake the actions called for in paragraph (4).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 837.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H. Res. 837, as amended, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Beijing should immediately guarantee the safety and the freedom of tennis star Peng Shuai, introduced by the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON).

Last month, former Wimbledon women's doubles champion and three-time Olympian Peng Shuai accused former Vice Premier of the State Council Zhang Gaoli of committing sexual assault and forcing her into a sexual relationship.

After these groundbreaking allegations were made, the first sexual assault allegation to implicate a high-ranking Chinese official, Peng seemingly vanished into thin air, and China's great firewall went into overdrive, deleting the original post, censoring any mention of Peng's name or discussion of her allegations online.

We know that here in America, sexual assault and gender-based violence are serious problems, and it took a movement of brave women and their allies to start changing the conversation around our workplaces and our homes and in our schools and communities.

Due to the action of journalists, the tennis community, activists, and social media users across the globe who started to ask about Peng's whereabouts, there has been tremendous attention given to her case. However, I, like many of my colleagues, remain deeply concerned about Peng's whereabouts and well-being. It is vital that we get assurances that Peng is safe and her ability to speak out is not constrained.

This important, bipartisan resolution calls for independent and verifiable proof that she is safe and free to make decisions and take actions of her own free will.

The accusations of sexual abuse by a former senior official are very serious, and this resolution calls for the Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately conduct a formal, transparent, and independent investigation.

At a time when we are preparing to send hundreds of American athletes to compete in Beijing's Winter Olympics, this resolution calls on the International Olympic Committee to do more to ensure athlete safety and hold the PRC Government accountable for its actions against Peng.

This is timely and is also an urgent resolution. I support it, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WALTZ), a member of the Committee on Armed Services and ranking member of the

Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Research and Technology and also the Republican coauthor of this bill.

Mr. WALTZ. Mr. Speaker, as my colleague, Mr. MEEKS, eloquently mentioned, it is worth repeating again that Peng Shuai on November 2 posted on her social media account a detailed allegation of sexual abuse against a former Vice Premier of the People's Republic of China, a very senior official.

In her post, she said: "I couldn't describe how disgusted I was and how many times I asked myself, am I still a human? I feel like a walking corpse."

It shouldn't surprise anybody that the CCP, the Chinese Communist Party, immediately censored her post and any mention of these allegations and basically wiped it off the face of the Earth. She has since been absent and unresponsive to friends except for a clearly fabricated statement and video in a clearly coerced session, shamefully with International Olympic Committee officials.

This would be like if a U.S. tennis star made an accusation, a credible one, of sexual abuse against a Vice President of the United States, and then she disappeared. That is what essentially has happened.

On November 21, the IOC said in a statement that its president, Thomas Bach, had a 30-minute video call but yet wouldn't release the video afterward. The IOC's participation in this charade is a disgrace.

After the call, IOC official Dick Pound said it is the IOC's unanimous conclusion by IOC officials that Peng is fine.

This is the definition of perpetuating CCP propaganda. It is exactly the opposite of what we should expect in the world.

The Women's Tennis Association has demanded accountability, demanded that her whereabouts be disclosed, that she be able to talk to colleagues and friends, and that her sexual assault allegation be taken seriously and fully investigated.

Importantly, unlike the National Basketball Association, the Olympics, and so many others, the WTA has said they are going to forgo any future tournaments in China, which is a significant, significant portion of their revenue. In short, they are putting their money where their mouth is. They are walking the walk, not just talking the talk.

This is exactly why we cannot send our athletes to the Beijing Olympics. We cannot guarantee their safety. We cannot turn a blind eye to the ongoing genocide. We cannot allow American companies that want to preach social justice here in the United States because it helps their balance sheet to then ignore basic human rights when it comes to China to also pad their balance sheet.

I would ask any of my colleagues, when it comes to the Winter Olympics,

did they agree with the IOC stepping into politics when it comes to apartheid? The IOC not only banned the Olympics from happening in South Africa under apartheid, but they banned the South African Olympic Committee from participating in the Olympics for 30 years.

Yet when it comes to China, when it comes to the abuses of the Chinese Communist Party, we have a whole heck of a lot of silence. If we won't take a stand now, what will we take a stand for?

I support the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL), the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS), and the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON) in this important effort.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. WEXTON), the sponsor of this bill along with the cosponsor, Mr. WALTZ.

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MEEKS for bringing this bill to the floor and to Speaker PELOSI for her steadfast commitment to holding the PRC accountable for its human rights abuses. Thank you also to my coload on the resolution, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WALTZ). It has been a pleasure to work with him in such a bipartisan way.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my resolution calling on the People's Republic of China to immediately guarantee the safety and freedom of Peng Shuai and condemning the International Olympic Committee for its shameful handling of the situation and failure to uphold its own human rights standards.

Over 1 month has passed since tennis superstar and three-time Olympian Peng Shuai was censored and disappeared after alleging her rape by a senior member of China's Communist Party.

Within minutes of posting the allegations on Chinese social media site Weibo, the post disappeared, and shortly thereafter all mentions of Peng on social media did, too.

Since then, Peng has not been seen or heard from in public and has only been seen in videos released by the Chinese state media, raising serious questions about her safety and freedom and leaving the world to ask: Where is Peng Shuai?

Her case has drawn support from all over the world, including from tennis stars Naomi Osaka, Serena Williams, and Novak Djokovic. The hashtag "Where is Peng Shuai" has trended globally on Twitter.

Women's Tennis Association CEO Steve Simon called for a full and transparent investigation into Peng's allegations and eventually suspended all WTA tournaments in China, citing concerns about the risks players could face at the hands of the PRC.

The WTA's actions and Peng's bravery in coming forward stand in stark contrast to the IOC, which is undermining efforts to secure Peng's safety

by working hand-in-hand with Beijing to cover up her allegations and disappearance.

Instead of prioritizing the safety of an Olympian who may be in danger, the IOC is once again putting its bottom line over athletes' safety and allowing itself to be used as a tool by the world's worst human rights abuser.

In a matter of weeks, our athletes will be in Beijing for the opening ceremonies of the 2022 Winter Games, and the IOC's complicity in this coverup raises serious questions about the organization's ability or even their willingness to protect our athletes.

Today, we are calling on the PRC to provide independent and verifiable proof of Peng's whereabouts and that she is safe and to allow Peng to communicate directly with the WTA and the United Nations.

The IOC must call on the PRC to undertake these actions immediately, stop legitimizing Beijing's coverup, and uphold its own human rights commitments to protect the safety and speech of Olympic athletes. The world is watching.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, when international institutions become unaccountable to the democratic world and are co-opted by dictators, they undermine American interests and values. That has become even clearer over the last few years.

When the COVID-19 outbreak began in Wuhan, the World Health Organization's complicity and the CCP's coverup helped turn what could have been a local outbreak into a global pandemic. We are still feeling the effects of the WHO repeating the CCP's lies without scrutiny, with them covering for Xi Jinping and with them legitimizing sham investigations into the origin of the virus.

The International Olympic Committee has a similar track record toward the CCP's human rights abuses. No human rights conditions were ever imposed by the IOC as a condition for China to host the 2008 Summer Olympics, and the CCP used it as propaganda to whitewash their brutal oppression. They allowed Beijing to host the 2022 Winter Olympics, once again turning a blind eye to the gross human rights violations and genocide currently being committed.

Over the last several weeks, we have seen the IOC change from passively validating the CCP's abuses to actively enabling them. The most troubling example is the ongoing abuse of Chinese Olympian Peng Shuai. She was disappeared by the CCP after coming forward with serious sexual abuse allegations against a senior party member.

After the world began speaking up for Peng, the CCP propaganda machine published false statements in her name. Rather than standing up for her, the IOC immediately issued public statements to validate this obvious disinformation and propaganda.

Even more shocking, IOC president, Thomas Bach, participated in and publicized a staged conversation with Peng

that was supervised by a senior CCP member.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Peng is neither free nor safe. Since the 2008 games, the Chinese Communist Party has become more repressive at home, more aggressive abroad, and has begun a genocide against China's most vulnerable minorities.

When Olympians from all over the world travel to Beijing in February, they are trusting the IOC to keep them safe, but the IOC's recent actions have shown that they are not worthy of this trust. I commend this resolution for holding them accountable.

In closing, I want to offer a heartfelt thanks to the Women's Tennis Association and its chairman, Steve Simon. Mr. Simon and the WTA have fought for Peng bravely in an inspiring display of moral clarity and support for our democratic values. Unfortunately, this is all too rare among those with financial ties to the CCP.

Mr. Speaker, I support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1430

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

H. Res. 837, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Beijing should immediately guarantee the safety and freedom of tennis star Peng Shuai is a timely and urgent resolution.

Peng's whereabouts and safety in China have been in question now for several weeks, and in just over 8 weeks, the Beijing Olympic Games are set to begin. There will be athletes from all over the world in attendance. This body owes it not to just to Peng, but to all the athletes participating in the Olympic Games to demonstrate that we do not take their safety and freedom for granted.

The PRC must understand that its diplomatic and economic heft will not allow it to get away scot-free when it silences and erases individuals.

While this resolution is about a single athlete, it is really about the innate dignity and freedom of every sexual assault survivor, human rights activist, environmental advocate, artist, journalist, and entrepreneur that has ever been beaten and broken by the Chinese Communist Party. We owe them our voice and our support.

Let me, again, thank Congresswoman WEXTON and Congressman WALTZ for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all of my colleagues will join us in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 837, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

CONDEMNING THE ONGOING GENOCIDE AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY BEING COMMITTED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 317) condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 317

Whereas, on December 9, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the Genocide Convention) signifying a commitment in response to the Holocaust and other crimes against humanity committed in the first half of the twentieth century;

Whereas the Genocide Convention entered into force on January 12, 1951, and declares that all state parties "confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish";

Whereas the Genocide Convention defines genocide as "any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: (a) Killing members of the group; (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group";

Whereas the United States ratified the Genocide Convention with the understanding that the commission of genocide requires "the specific intent to destroy, in whole or in substantial part, a [protected] group as such";

Whereas the People's Republic of China (PRC) is a state party to the Genocide Convention;

Whereas, since 2017, the PRC Government, under the direction and control of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), has detained and sought to indoctrinate more than one million Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and religious minority groups;

Whereas recent data indicate a significant drop in birth rates among Uyghurs due to enforced sterilization, enforced abortion, and more onerous birth quotas for Uyghurs compared to Han;

Whereas there are credible reports of PRC Government campaigns to promote marriages between Uyghurs and Han and to reduce birth rates among Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims;

Whereas many Uyghurs reportedly have been assigned to factory employment under

conditions that indicate forced labor, and some former detainees have reported food deprivation, beatings, suppression of religious practices, family separation, and sexual abuse;

Whereas this is indicative of a systematic effort to eradicate the ethnic and cultural identity and religious beliefs, and prevent the births of, Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs and Kyrgyz, and members of religious minority groups;

Whereas the birth rate in the Xinjiang region fell by 24 percent in 2019 compared to a 4.2 percent decline nationwide;

Whereas, on January 19, 2021, the Department of State determined the PRC Government, under the direction and control of the CCP, has committed crimes against humanity and genocide against Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minority groups in Xinjiang;

Whereas Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Former Secretary of State Michael Pompeo have both stated that what has taken place in Xinjiang is genocide and constitutes crimes against humanity;

Whereas Article VIII of the Genocide Convention provides, "Any Contracting Party may call upon the competent organs of the United Nations to take such action under the Charter of the United Nations as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide";

Whereas the International Court of Justice has stated that it is the obligation of all state parties to the Genocide Convention to "employ all means reasonably available to them, so as to prevent genocide so far as possible"; and

Whereas the United States is a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) finds that the ongoing abuses against Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and religious minority groups constitute genocide as defined in the Genocide Convention and crimes against humanity as understood under customary international law;

(2) attributes these atrocity crimes against Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and religious minority groups to the People's Republic of China, under the direction and control of the Chinese Communist Party;

(3) condemns this genocide and these crimes against humanity in the strongest terms; and

(4) calls upon the President to direct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to—

(A) refer the People's Republic of China's genocide and crimes against humanity against Uyghurs and members of other ethnic and religious minority groups to the competent organs of the United Nations for investigation;

(B) seize the United Nations Security Council of the circumstances of this genocide and crimes against humanity and lead efforts to invoke multilateral sanctions in response to these ongoing atrocities; and

(C) take all possible actions to bring this genocide and these crimes against humanity to an end and hold the perpetrators of these atrocities accountable under international law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.