

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the International Commission of Jurists is a non-governmental organization founded in 1952 to defend the Rule of Law throughout the world and to work towards the full observance of the provisions in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Whereas in 1959, 1960, and 1964, the International Commission of Jurists examined Chinese policy in Tibet, violations of human rights in Tibet, and the position of Tibet in international law;

Whereas in 1960, the International Commission of Jurists found “that acts of genocide has been committed in Tibet in an attempt to destroy the Tibetans as a religious group, * * *” and concluded that Tibet was at least “a de facto independent State” prior to 1951 and that Tibet was a “legitimate concern of the United Nations even on the restrictive interpretation of matters ‘essentially within the domestic jurisdiction’ of a State.”;

Whereas these findings were presented to the United Nations General Assembly, which adopted three resolutions (1959, 1961, and 1965) calling on the People’s Republic of China to ensure respect for the fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people and for their distinctive cultural and religious life, and to cease practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human

rights and freedoms including their right to self-determination;

Whereas in December 1997, the International Commission of Jurists issued a fourth report on Tibet, examining human rights and the rule of law, including self-determination;

Whereas the President has repeatedly indicated his support for substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives; and

Whereas on October 31, 1997, the Secretary of State appointed a Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues to oversee United States policy regarding Tibet: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representative*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) expresses grave concern regarding the find-
4 ings of the December 1997 International Commis-
5 sion of Jurists report on Tibet that—

6 (A) repression in Tibet has increased
7 steadily since 1994, resulting in heightened con-
8 trol on religious activity; a denunciation cam-
9 paign against the Dalai Lama unprecedented
10 since the Cultural Revolution; an increase in
11 political arrests; suppression of peaceful pro-
12 tests; and an accelerated movement of Chinese
13 to Tibet; and

14 (B) in 1997, the People's Republic of
15 China labeled the Tibetan Buddhist culture,

1 which has flourished in Tibet since the seventh
2 century, as a “foreign culture” in order to fa-
3 cilitate indoctrination of Tibetans in Chinese so-
4 cialist ideology and the process of national and
5 cultural extermination;

6 (2) supports the recommendations contained in
7 the report referred to in paragraph (1) that—

8 (A) call on the People’s Republic of
9 China—

10 (i) to enter into discussions with the
11 Dalai Lama or his representatives on a so-
12 lution to the question of Tibet;

13 (ii) to ensure respect for the fun-
14 damental human rights of the Tibetan peo-
15 ple; and

16 (iii) to end those practices which
17 threaten to erode the distinct cultural, reli-
18 gious and national identity of the Tibetan
19 people and, in particular, to cease policies
20 which result in the movement of Chinese
21 people to Tibetan territory;

22 (B) call on the United Nations General As-
23 sembly to resume its debate on the question of
24 Tibet based on its resolutions of 1959, 1961,
25 and 1965; and

1 (C) call on the Dalai Lama or his rep-
2 resentatives to enter into discussions with the
3 Government of the People's Republic of China
4 on a solution to the question of Tibet;

5 (3) commends the appointment by the Sec-
6 retary of State of a United States Special Coordina-
7 tor for Tibetan Issues—

8 (A) to promote substantive dialogue be-
9 tween the Government of the People's Republic
10 of China and the Dalai Lama or his representa-
11 tives;

12 (B) to coordinate United States Govern-
13 ment policies, programs, and projects concern-
14 ing Tibet;

15 (C) to consult with the Congress on poli-
16 cies relevant to Tibet and the future and wel-
17 fare of all Tibetan people, and to report to Con-
18 gress in partial fulfillment of the requirements
19 of section 536(a) of the Public Law 103-236;
20 and

21 (D) to advance United States policy which
22 seeks to protect the unique religious, cultural,
23 and linguistic heritage of Tibet, and to encour-
24 age improved respect for Tibetan human rights;

1 (4) calls on the People's Republic of China to
2 release from detention the 9-year old Panchen
3 Lama, Gedhun Cheokyi Nyima, to his home in Tibet
4 from which he was taken on May 17, 1995, and to
5 allow him to pursue his religious studies without in-
6 terference and according to tradition;

7 (5) commends the President for publicly urging
8 President Jiang Zemin, during their recent summit
9 meeting in Beijing, to engage in dialogue with the
10 Dalai Lama; and

11 (6) calls on the President to continue to work
12 to secure an agreement to begin substantive negotia-
13 tions between the Government of the People's Re-
14 public of China and the Dalai Lama or his rep-
15 resentatives.

Passed the Senate September 17, 1998.

Attest:

Secretary.

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. CON. RES. 103

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress in support of the recommendations of the International Commission of Jurists on Tibet and on United States policy with regard to Tibet.