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HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999**

INTRODUCED BY

Patsy Trujillo Knauer

A MEMORIAL

SUPPORTING THE CONCLUSION OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS THAT  
TIBET IS AN OCCUPIED COUNTRY UNDER THE PRINCIPLES OF  
INTERNATIONAL LAW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China invaded the  
independent country of Tibet in 1949-1950, has committed "acts  
of genocide" in Tibet and is currently committing systematic  
human rights violations in that country, including death in  
detention, torture, disappearances, arbitrary arrest,  
detention without public trial, denial of free speech and free  
press, population transfer, coerced sterilizations and  
abortions, suppression of Tibetan Buddhism, destruction of  
Tibetan culture and widespread racism and discrimination  
against Tibetans; and

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1           WHEREAS, the United States congress has stated that  
2 "Tibet, including those areas incorporated into the Chinese  
3 provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai, is an  
4 occupied country under the established principles of  
5 international law whose true representatives are the Dalai  
6 Lama and the Tibetan government in exile as recognized by the  
7 Tibetan people"; and

8           WHEREAS, the united nations general assembly passed  
9 Resolutions 1353 (XIV), 1723 (XVI) and 2079 (XX), calling for  
10 the cessation of practices that deprive the Tibetan people of  
11 their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their  
12 right to self-determination; and

13           WHEREAS, in December 1997, the international commission  
14 of jurists reported that "repression in Tibet has increased  
15 steadily since the 1994 third international forum on work in  
16 Tibet" and concluded that "Tibetans are a 'people under alien  
17 subjugation', entitled under international law to the right of  
18 self-determination"; and

19           WHEREAS, China seeks to absorb Tibet into China and is  
20 conducting economic development in Tibet contrary to the  
21 wishes of the Tibetan people, and the Tibetan government-in-  
22 exile advocates economic development in Tibet, but has stated  
23 that development should be small-scale, decentralized  
24 initiatives in which Tibetans have control and that any  
25 development that intensifies and promotes the transfer of

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1 Chinese people into Tibet or that leads to the destruction of  
2 Tibet's fragile environment should be opposed; and

3 WHEREAS, his holiness the Dalai Lama, recipient of the  
4 1989 Nobel peace prize, has repeatedly tried to conduct  
5 negotiations with China concerning the status of Tibet without  
6 preconditions, but China has refused to agree to these  
7 negotiations, and the Tibetan freedom movement is based on  
8 Buddhist nonviolent principles, even in the face of brutal  
9 Chinese repression and the Tibetan people have called upon the  
10 world community to actively support their struggle for human  
11 rights, economic justice and self-determination;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
13 OF NEW MEXICO that it support the conclusion of the United  
14 States congress that Tibet, including those areas incorporated  
15 into the Chinese provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and  
16 Qinghai, is an occupied country under the established  
17 principles of international law whose true representatives are  
18 the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government-in-exile as  
19 recognized by the Tibetan people; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it support the  
21 recommendations of the international commission of jurists to  
22 the People's Republic of China that the Chinese government:

23 A. enter into discussions with the Dalai Lama and  
24 the Tibetan government-in-exile on a solution to the question  
25 of Tibet based on the will of the Tibetan people;

1 B. ensure respect for the fundamental human rights  
2 of the Tibetan people;

3 C. end those practices that threaten to erode the  
4 distinct cultural, religious and national identity of the  
5 Tibetan people, and in particular, cease policies that result  
6 in the movement of Chinese people to Tibetan territory;

7 D. cooperate with the united nations for the  
8 protection of human rights; and

9 E. allow unrestricted access to Tibet by  
10 independent human rights monitors; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the right of the Tibetan  
12 people to control economic development in Tibet be supported,  
13 and individuals and companies doing business in Tibet should  
14 follow the development guidelines of the Tibetan government-  
15 in-exile; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the Dalai Lama.

1 FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

2 FIRST SESSION, 1999

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5  
6 March 9, 1999

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8 Mr. Speaker:

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10 Your JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, to whom has been referred

11  
12 HOUSE MEMORIAL 23

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14 has had it under consideration and reports same with  
15 recommendation that it DO PASS.

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17 Respectfully submitted,

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21 R. David Pederson, Chairman  
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FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION, 1999

3 HJC/HM 23

Page 6

4 Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ Not Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

6 (Chief Clerk)

(Chief Clerk)

8 Date \_\_\_\_\_

10 The roll call vote was 6 For 0 Against

11 Yes: 6

12 Excused: Godbey, Luna, Martinez, Rios, Vaughn, Sanchez

13 Absent: None

15 J:\99BillsWP\HM023

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