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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. **2500**

03/14/2019 Authored by Pierson, Lee, Boe, Miller, Fischer and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

A resolution

calling for an end to the cold genocide and forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners in China.

WHEREAS, ethical guidelines for transplantation are set forth by the Minnesota Medical Association, the American Medical Association, the World Medical Association, and the World Health Organization; the medical profession has the responsibility to protect the rights and interests of patients who need and seek transplant surgery, as well as to protect the rights and interests of those whose organs may have been procured in an unethical manner; and

WHEREAS, China is the country that performs the largest number of transplants in the world and thus must be held accountable to particular standards to act ethically and transparently regarding organ transplants and organ procurement; and

WHEREAS, systematic, state-sanctioned organ harvesting not only from executed prisoners but particularly from prisoners of conscience in China has occurred with the knowledge of the Chinese government; and there are credible investigative reports about forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners in China that have led to parliamentary actions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed House Resolution 343 in June, 2016, calling for an end to forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong prisoners of conscience in China, and the European Parliament also passed Written Declaration 48 in summer 2016, calling for investigations and an end to forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong prisoners of conscience in China; and

WHEREAS, Doctors Against Forced Organ Harvesting (DAFOH), a medical nongovernmental organization that was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 2016 and 2017, collected over 3,000,000 signatures for a petition to the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, thereby establishing widespread public interest in this matter, is calling for an end to forced organ harvesting in China; and

WHEREAS, an independent tribunal in London has conducted hearings and published a preliminary judgment confirming the urgency to end this abuse of forced organ harvesting of living prisoners of conscience; and

WHEREAS, recent research has established that China's public organ donation program, which is said to be the foundation of its transplant reform, is not plausible; and

WHEREAS, Chinese transplant numbers have increased dramatically and transplant tourism has become a lucrative source of income in China, leading to a rapid expansion of the transplant infrastructure in China in absence of a credible organ donation system, and China has declared the Hainan Islands to be a special economic zone for medical tourism; and

WHEREAS, the forced organ harvesting in China from prisoners of conscience, primarily from Falun Gong practitioners, is part of a cold genocide against Falun Gong; NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnesota Senate and the Minnesota House of Representatives recognize the importance of ethical standards in the medical profession; AND, THEREFORE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnesota Senate and the Minnesota House of Representatives request from the Minnesota Medical Association a report on China's transplant and organ procurement practices as well as the status of prisoners of conscience as sources of transplantable organs; AND, THEREFORE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnesota Senate and the Minnesota House of Representatives ask the Minnesota Medical Association to request from the American Medical Association a report on China's transplant and organ procurement practices as well as the status of prisoners of conscience as sources of transplantable organs; AND, THEREFORE

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota that it urges the President and the Congress of the United States to call upon China to end the cold genocide and forced organ harvesting from Falun Gong practitioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota is directed to prepare copies of this memorial and transmit them to the Minnesota Falun Dafa Organization, the President of the United States, the President and the Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, the chair of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Minnesota's Senators and Representatives in Congress.