

By: Shaheen

H.R. No. 748

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, When performed in accordance with ethical
2 standards, the medical discipline of organ transplantation is one
3 of the great achievements of modern medicine; and

4 WHEREAS, Voluntary and informed consent is the precondition
5 for ethical organ donation; international medical organizations
6 state that prisoners, deprived of their freedom, are not in the
7 position to give free consent and that the practice of sourcing
8 organs from prisoners is a violation of ethical guidelines in
9 medicine; and

10 WHEREAS, The Government of the People's Republic of China has
11 taken organs without the consent of prisoners, while also
12 preventing independent verification of its transplant system; and

13 WHEREAS, The organ transplantation system in China does not
14 comply with the World Health Organization's requirement of
15 transparency and traceability in organ procurement pathways; and

16 WHEREAS, Today, China maintains the largest forced-labor
17 camp system in the world, enslaving millions of citizens; untold
18 numbers of innocent people are detained arbitrarily and sent to
19 these camps for "reeducation through labor" without being charged
20 or tried; once imprisoned, they often suffer torture, violence, and
21 the denial of medical care; in many cases, the death penalty is
22 imposed based on confessions obtained under torture, and Chinese
23 human rights activists report that inmates on death row are forced
24 to sign organ donation forms; and

1 WHEREAS, It is imperative that every instance of organ
2 transplantation be authorized by a willing donor and that all
3 activities related to the medical procedure be trackable and open
4 to examination; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
6 Legislature hereby condemn the practice of state-sanctioned forced
7 organ harvesting in the People's Republic of China and call on the
8 Government of the People's Republic of China to immediately end the
9 practice of organ harvesting from all prisoners.