

1                   **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE**  
2                   **TREATMENT OF THE UIGHUR ETHNIC COMMUNITY BY**  
3                   **THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT**

4                   2021 GENERAL SESSION

5                   STATE OF UTAH

6                   **Chief Sponsor: Brady Brammer**

7                   Senate Sponsor: Michael S. Kennedy

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9                   **LONG TITLE**

10                  **General Description:**

11                  This concurrent resolution condemns the People's Republic of China's treatment of the  
12 Uighur community and Hong Kong and encourages Utah schools and higher learning  
13 institutions to teach students about these current events--particularly those engaged in  
14 learning the Chinese language and culture to understand the atrocities and challenges  
15 faced by the people of China as a result of the socialist economy controlled by the  
16 communist People's Republic of China government.

17                  **Highlighted Provisions:**

18                  This resolution:

- 19                  ▶ condemns the People's Republic of China's treatment of the Uighur community and  
20 Hong Kong;  
21                  ▶ calls upon the People's Republic of China to uphold its commitments to Hong  
22 Kong; and  
23                  ▶ encourages Utah schools and higher learning institutions to teach students about  
24 these current events.

25                  **Special Clauses:**

26                  None

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28 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:*

29 WHEREAS, the Government of the People's Republic of China has a long history of  
30 repressing Turkic Muslims, particularly Uighurs, in China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous  
31 Region, including mass surveillance and internment of over 1,000,000 Uighurs and other  
32 predominantly Turkic Muslim ethnic minorities;

33 WHEREAS, those detained in such facilities have described forced political  
34 indoctrination, torture, beatings, and food deprivation, as well as denial of religious, cultural,  
35 and linguistic freedoms, and confirmed that they were told by guards that the only way to  
36 secure release was to demonstrate sufficient political loyalty;

37 WHEREAS, poor conditions and lack of medical treatment at such facilities appear to  
38 have contributed to the deaths of some detainees, including the elderly and infirm;

39 WHEREAS, the Government of the People's Republic of China's actions against Turkic  
40 Muslims in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, whose population was approximately 13  
41 million at the time of the last Chinese census in 2010, are in contravention of international  
42 human rights laws, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial  
43 Discrimination, and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading  
44 Treatment or Punishment, both of which China has signed and ratified, and the Universal  
45 Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,  
46 which China has signed;

47 WHEREAS, in late May 2020, the National People's Congress of China announced its  
48 intention to unilaterally and arbitrarily impose national security legislation on Hong Kong;

49 WHEREAS, this announcement was merely China's latest salvo in a series of actions  
50 that have increasingly denied autonomy and freedoms that China promised to the people of  
51 Hong Kong under the 1984 Joint Declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of  
52 Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on  
53 the Question of Hong Kong (Joint Declaration);

54 WHEREAS, under the national security legislation, the people of Hong Kong may face  
55 life in prison for what China considers to be acts of secession or subversion of state power ---  
56 which may include acts like the widespread anti-government protests in 2019;

57 WHEREAS, under the national security legislation the right to trial by jury may be  
58 suspended and proceedings may be conducted in secret;

59 WHEREAS, China has given itself broad power to initiate and control the prosecutions  
60 of the people of Hong Kong through the new Office for Safeguarding National Security; and

61 WHEREAS, the national security legislation allows foreigners to be expelled if China  
62 merely suspects them of violating the law, potentially making it harder for journalists, human  
63 rights organizations, and other outside groups to hold the People's Republic of China  
64 accountable for its treatment of the people of Hong Kong;

65 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the  
66 Governor concurring therein, condemns the mass, arbitrary detention and treatment of Uighurs  
67 in China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region;

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor  
69 concurring therein, condemns the violations by the Government of the People's Republic of  
70 China of the fundamental rights of the people of Hong Kong, as provided by the International  
71 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and any encroachment upon the autonomy guaranteed  
72 to Hong Kong by the Basic Law and the Joint Declaration;

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor  
74 concurring therein, calls upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to uphold its  
75 commitments to Hong Kong, including allowing the people of Hong Kong to govern Hong  
76 Kong with a high degree of autonomy and without undue interference;

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor  
78 concurring therein, calls upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to support the  
79 robust exercise by residents of Hong Kong of the rights to free speech, the press, and other  
80 fundamental freedoms, as provided by the Basic Law, the Joint Declaration, and the  
81 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

82 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor  
83 concurring therein, calls upon the Government of the People's Republic of China to support  
84 freedom from arbitrary or unlawful arrest, detention, or imprisonment for all Hong Kong  
85 residents, as provided by the Basic Law, the Joint Declaration, and the International Covenant  
86 on Civil and Political Rights;

87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor encourage Utah  
88 schools and higher learning institutions to teach Utah students about these current events,  
89 particularly those engaged in learning the Chinese language and culture, to understand the

90 atrocities and challenges faced by the people of China as a result of the ~~H~~→ Maoist ←~~H~~ socialist  
90a economy  
91 controlled by the communist People's Republic of China.