

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2002

Yang Jiechi
Chinese Ambassador to the United States
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
2300 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

We write to ask your assistance in the case of Dr. Yang Jianli, who, according to our information, was detained on Friday, April 26, 2002, in Kunming, China. We would like to ask you for further information regarding his exact whereabouts, his medical condition, and urge you to extend all humanitarian considerations to Dr. Yang.

It is our understanding that Dr. Yang may have violated Chinese immigration laws as he reportedly traveled on false or incomplete documents. While the People's Republic of China and the United States share a joint interest and natural right in defending territorial borders from any illegal breaches, Dr. Yang's health and his special circumstances are of particular concern to us. Dr. Yang is a permanent U.S. resident and lives with his wife and child in Brookline, Massachusetts. He is a prominent advocate for democracy and human rights in China and has testified numerous times on Capitol Hill.

The People's Republic of China has continually expressed willingness to work to improve human rights conditions in China. If the PRC were to apply humanitarian considerations in the case of Dr. Yang, it would be a statement not lost on the U.S. and the world.

Thank you for your time and concern in this matter of utmost importance.

Sincerely,



TOM LANTOS
Co-Chair, Congressional Human
Rights Caucus



BARNEY FRANK
Member, Congressional Human
Rights Caucus



FRANK WOLF
Co-Chair, Congressional Human
Rights Caucus



CHRIS SMITH
Member, Congressional Human
Rights Caucus