

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 10, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear President Bush:

We are writing to ask that you raise again the case of Dr. Yang Jianli directly with Chinese President Hu Jintao when you meet with him during his upcoming visit to the United States. As you know, Dr. Yang Jianli is a legal permanent resident of the United States, and his wife and two children are U.S. citizens. A prominent pro-democracy activist, Dr. Yang was detained by the Government of the People's Republic of China in April 2002 after entering the country with a friend's passport after his own had been denied renewal by the Chinese government because of his involvement in the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests.

The U.S. House and Senate unanimously passed resolutions calling for Dr. Yang's unconditional release. Secretary Rice has personally and repeatedly appealed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other high-level Chinese officials for his release during her several trips to Beijing, and the U.S. embassy in Beijing has been working assiduously on his behalf over the past several years. All of these efforts, along with those of various human rights organizations and prominent institutions such as Harvard University, have been instrumental in helping to secure better treatment of Dr. Yang while in prison, but, as of yet, not his release.

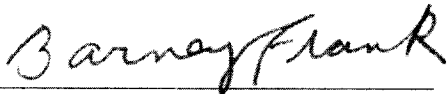
Dr. Yang was initially held for over a year in solitary confinement without access to counsel, and he reportedly had been abused by prison guards. While in prison, he also suffered a minor stroke, and his health continues to be a serious concern to many of us. Tragically, he recently experienced the loss of his father, whose funeral he could not attend.

On the 28th of this month, Dr. Yang will have served four years of a five-year sentence. It seems to us that the People's Republic of China has demonstrated its concern for the rule of law in this case, and that any deterrent effect the government sought to obtain has clearly long since been achieved. We very much hope that you will relay to President Hu that respect for his country's position in the international community would be enhanced if Yang Jianli were released and allowed to return to his home, to his family, to his children, and to his wife.

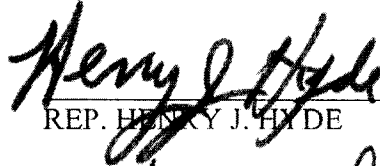
We respectfully ask that you make the case to President Hu that his country would have nothing to lose by releasing Dr. Yang at this point, and in fact much to gain with regard to the positive effect it would have on the bilateral strategic partnership between our two countries. Such a display of forbearance would not be seen as a capitulation to the west, but rather as an act of generosity -- a display of goodwill from one of the world's most powerful nations.

We appreciate the outstanding efforts of the White House and State Department on this issue, as well as your direct involvement during your trip to Beijing last fall, for which we are truly very grateful. We believe that your personal, direct advocacy with President Hu at this crucial time is our best and greatest hope in helping to bring Yang Jianli, who is a hero to so many, home.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.



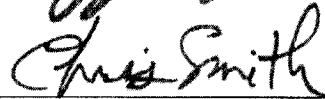
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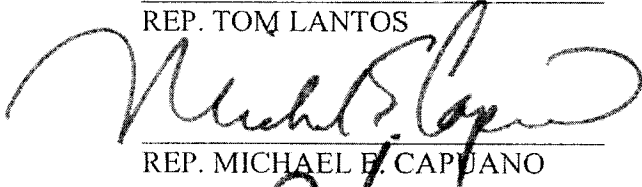
REP. HENRY J. HYDE



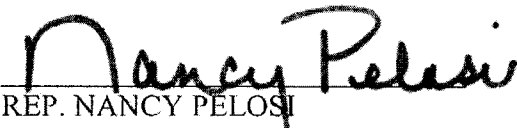
REP. TOM LANTOS



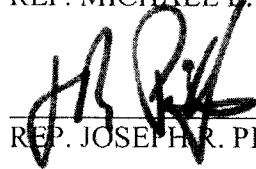
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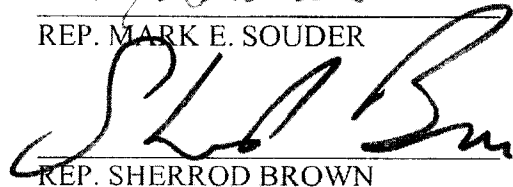
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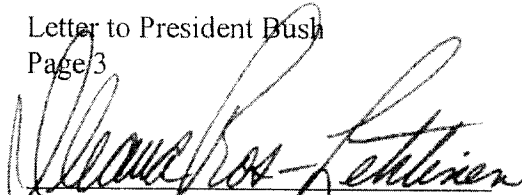
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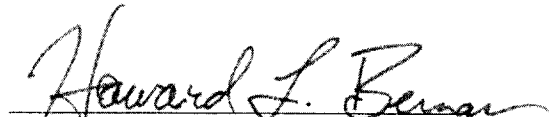


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REP. IO ANN DAVIS

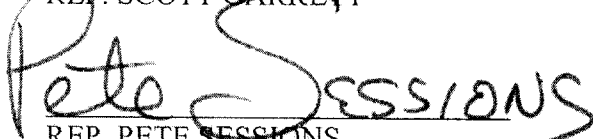

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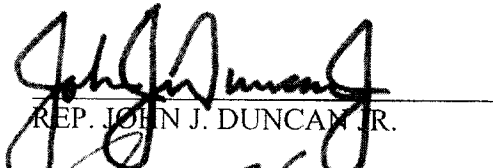

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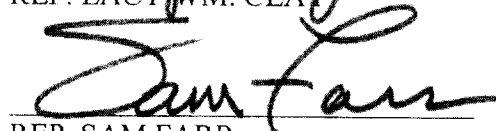

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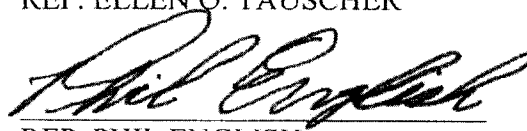

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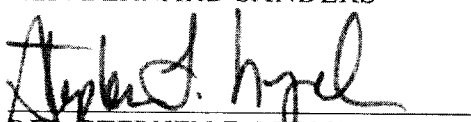

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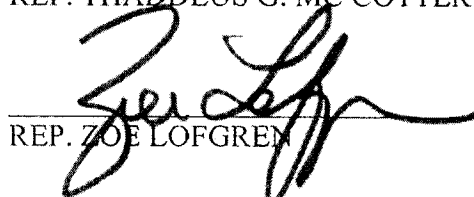

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Ken Calvert
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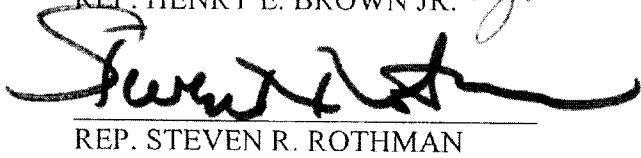
Eliot L. Engel
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Madeleine Z. Bordallo
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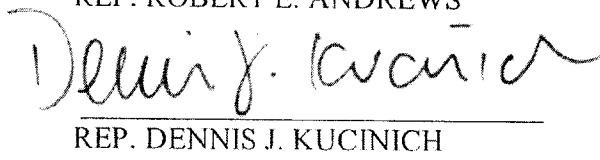
Frank Pallone Jr.
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REP. HENRY E. BROWN JR.

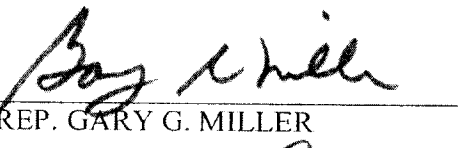

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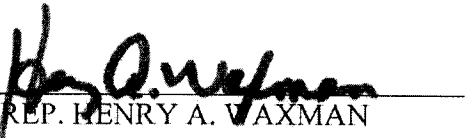

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REP. MARK GREEN

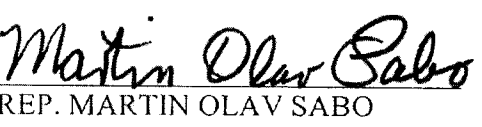

REP. VIC SNYDER

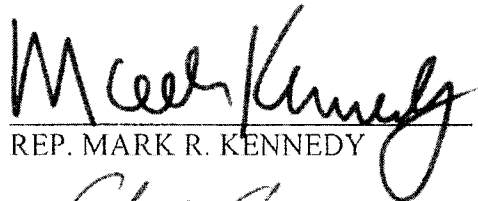

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REP. JULIA CARSON

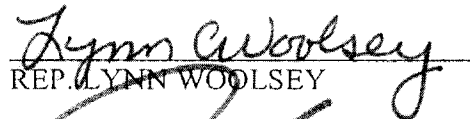

REP. DANNY K. DAVIS

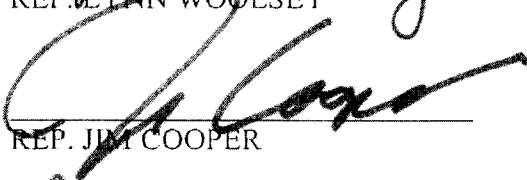

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REP. MARTIN OLAV SABO


REP. MARK R. KENNEDY

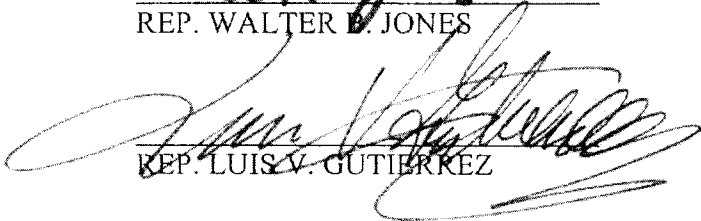

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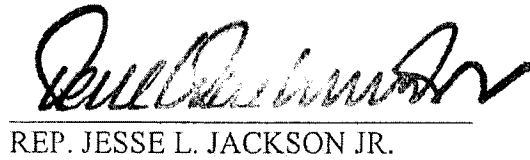

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REP. DANA ROHRBACHER


REP. TODD W. AKIN


REP. JOHN BOOZMAN

cc: The Honorable Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State

The Honorable Zhou Wenzhong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China