



City of Cambridge

R-76.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 2, 2001

MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: The CRLS Students for a Free Tibet organization has brought the issue of human rights violations in Tibet to the attention of this City Council; and
- WHEREAS: The People's Republic of China invaded the independent country of Tibet in 1949-50; and
- WHEREAS: Since its occupation of Tibet, the government of the People's Republic of China has been responsible for numerous human rights violations in that country; and
- WHEREAS: Examples of human rights violations include death in detention, torture, disappearances, arbitrary arrest, detention without public trial, denial of free speech and free press, population transfer, coerced sterilization and abortions, suppression of Tibetan Buddhism, destruction of Tibetan culture, and widespread racism and discrimination against Tibetans; and
- WHEREAS: The United States Congress has stated that "Tibet, including those areas incorporated into the Chinese Provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, Gansu and Qinghai, is an occupied country under the established principles of international law whose true representatives are the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government in exile as recognized by the Tibetan people;" and
- WHEREAS: The United Nations General Assembly passed Resolutions 1353 (XIV), 1723 (XVI), and 2079 (XX), calling for the cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination; and
- WHEREAS: In December 1997, the International Commission of Jurists reported that "repression in Tibet has increased steadily since the 1994 Third International Forum on Work in Tibet" and concluded that "Tibetans are a 'people under alien subjugation,' entitled under international law to the right of self-determination;" and
- WHEREAS: China seeks to absorb Tibet into China and is conducting economic development in Tibet contrary to the wishes of the Tibetan people; and
- WHEREAS: The Tibetan Government-in-exile advocates small-scale, decentralized economic development in Tibet that Tibetans control, and that any development which intensifies and promotes the transfer of Chinese into Tibet or which leads to the destruction of Tibet's fragile environment should be opposed; and

- WHEREAS: His Holiness the Dalai Lama, recipients of the 1989 Nobel Peace Prize, as repeatedly tried to conduct negotiations with China concerning the status of Tibet without preconditions, but China has refused to agree to these negotiations; and
- WHEREAS: The Tibetan freedom movement is based on Buddhist non-violent principles, even in the face of brutal Chinese repression, and the Tibetan people have called upon the world community to actively support their struggle for human rights, economic justice, and self-determination; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this Cambridge City Council supports the conclusion of the United States Congress that Tibet is an occupied country under the established principles of international law whose true representatives are the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in-exile as recognized by the Tibetan people and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council supports the recommendations of the International Commission of Jurists to the People's Republic of China to enter into discussions with the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in-exile on a solution to the question of Tibet based on the will of the Tibetan people; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council supports a solution that ensures respect for the fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people, ends those practices which threaten to erode the distinct cultural, religious and national identity of the Tibetan people, and ends policies which result in the movement of Chinese to Tibetan territory; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council urges the People's Republic of China to cooperate with the United Nations mechanisms for the protection of human rights and allow unrestricted access to Tibet by independent human rights monitors; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council supports the right of the Tibetan people to control economic development in Tibet; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council calls upon individuals and companies doing business in Tibet to acknowledge that Tibet is an occupied country, whose rights and culture are being violated; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council does not approve of the visit of Chinese government officials unless the Chinese government acknowledges that Tibet is a separate country from China, that human rights violations take place in China and Tibet, that discussions on the solution of the question of Tibet need to take place with the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Government-in-exile; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That this City Council thank the CRLS Students for a Free Tibet for their efforts in addressing the issues facing the Tibetan nation and the Tibetan people; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to CRLS Students for a Free Tibet on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council April 2, 2001.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

2001 MAR 29 P 12: 34

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

P-14

MAYOR GALLUCCIO

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Resolution #76

Thanks to the CRLS students for a
Free Tibet for their efforts in
addressing the issues facing the
Tibetan nation and people.

Mayor Galluccio

In City Council April 2, 2001

ORDER ADOPTED