

JOHN F. KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
CAMBRIDGE MA.

March 14, 1990

Mr. Joseph E. Connarton
Office of the City Clerk
City of Cambridge
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Connarton:

Thank you for your letter expressing your support for an override of President Bush's veto of the Emergency Chinese Immigration Relief Act of 1989, a bill which had my full support. By vetoing this bill, the Administration sent us a message that it cares more about maintaining cordial relations with China than it does about human rights abuses and the well-being of the Chinese students here in the United States.

I voted to override the President's veto, along with 62 of my colleagues. As you know, however, the Administration went to great lengths to win the support of a number of senators, and at the last minute, the President garnered the support of 37 senators, of his party, which was sufficient to sustain the veto.

Since the tragic and barbarous events in Tiananmen Square, the Chinese government has executed student leaders who were guilty of nothing more than working for a more open and just society. Many of the students here in the United States have joined in protest against the Chinese government's repressive actions. They have shown solidarity with the bravery and courage of their fellow students in China, and because of their desire for democracy in their country, many of these students will face persecution or even death upon their return to China.

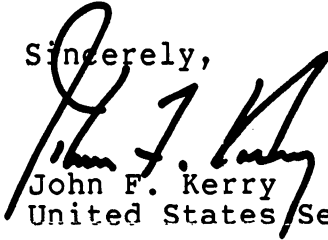
Instead of caving into the Chinese government, the United States should be most concerned with the human rights, and the well being of the Chinese students in this country. Just as we have shown our support for the courage of the people of Eastern Europe so we should lend our support for the students of China in their continuing struggle for freedom and democracy.

Thank you once again for your letter. I have enclosed a copy of my remarks on the Senate floor for your information.

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Thank you once again for your letter. During the next session of the 101st Congress I will be working with my colleagues to override the President's veto of this bill and to protect the lives of Chinese students in this country.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator

Enclosure
JFK/mpr

5.

S-347

Comm. from Senator John F. Kerry relative
to a letter of support received from the
City Council for an override of President
Bush's veto of the Emergency Chinese
Immigration Relief Act of 1989.

In City Council,

April 2, 1990

Placed on file