



## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Falun Dafa, also known as Falun Gong, is a peaceful spiritual practice with key values of Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance for achieving physical and spiritual well-being through exercises and meditation; and

WHEREAS, The Falun Dafa philosophy espoused the idea that when the heart is pure, the mind balanced, and the body energized, health and happiness are a natural result; individuals have been empowered to leave behind addictions and bad habits; families, to live in peace together; and communities, to embrace what is virtuous and life –affirming; and

WHEREAS, The effectiveness of Falun Dafa in improving health, as well as the principles upon which it is founded, have proven to be immensely popular throughout the world and have attracted people in 114 countries and regions; and

WHEREAS, Since July 1999, Falun Dafa practitioners have been persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party, as documented by the United States Department of State, the U.S. Commission in International Religious Freedom, Amnesty International, Human Right Watch, and many other governmental and third-party organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Chinese Communist authority is persecuting Falun Dafa practitioners with this policy: “Defame Falun Dafa’s reputations, destroy practitioners physically, bankrupt them financially”; and

WHEREAS, Over 3,700 Falun Dafa practitioners have died from documented torture; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State in its 2011 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices stated, “Overseas and domestic media and advocacy groups continued to report instances of organ harvesting, particularly from Falun Gong practitioners and Uighurs” ; and

WHEREAS, Canadian human rights attorney David Matas and former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific David Kilgour co-wrote the investigative report “Bloody Harvest: Revised Report into Allegations of Organ Harvesting of Falun Gong Practitioners in China”; and

WHEREAS, The Matas-Kilgour report concluded that the organ harvesting allegations were true and that tens of thousands of Falun Dafa practitioners may have been killed for their organs; and

WHEREAS, The harvested organs are then used by the hospitals associated with the prison for transplants, with the customers for these transplants often being individuals from elsewhere, including the United States; and

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