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4TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA



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AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

CHIEF DEPUTY DEMOCRATIC WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

PLEASE REPLY TO:

2465 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0304
(202) 225-4065

411 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 150
PHOENIX, AZ 85004
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July 15, 2008

Mr. Sam Kim
Executive Director
Korean Church Coalition for North Korean Freedom
5661 Beach Boulevard, #200
Buena Park, California 90621-2045

Dear Mr. Kim:

I commend your non-violent commitment to improving the lives of North Korean refugees throughout the world. Your vigil in Arizona, along with such gatherings across the United States and Canada, sends an important message that the world will not turn a blind eye to the suffering of people denied their most basic liberties.

Knowing of your particular concern for North Korean refugees in China, I am pleased to inform you that I recently co-signed a letter to Chinese President Hu Jintao, urging an end to China's policy of repatriating North Korean refugees in China to North Korea, where they face punishment, torture, and even execution. I remain hopeful that the outpouring of concern from the international community will result in the safe resettlement of these refugees. Your activism on their behalf is a valuable part of that effort.

I am proud to stand with you as we work to improve the lives of individuals who have been persecuted and risked their lives to achieve the freedom that we so often take for granted. I will continue to support and build upon this effort to bring attention and relief to North Korean refugees in China and elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor
Member of Congress

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