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COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS

**TIM RYAN**  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
17TH DISTRICT, OHIO

July 11, 2008

Sam Kim, Executive Director  
Korean Church Coalition for North Korea Freedom  
5661 Beach Blvd. #200  
Buena Park, CA 90621

Dear Mr. Kim,

I wish to express my strong support and admiration for the Korean Church Coalition and its efforts to end the human rights violations of both North Korean citizens and North Korean refugees.

Living under a veil of tyranny cast by the regime of Kim Jong Il, many North Koreans have been forced to flee their homes in the prospect of finding better lives in China; yet, the anguish felt by these refugees is only intensified by further injustice once they cross the border. Rather than finding the freedom they so rightly deserve, North Korean refugees are faced with persecution and forced repatriation, both of which violate the most fundamental of human rights.

The eyes of the world turn their attention to Beijing in the coming weeks, and the actions of China have fallen under greater international scrutiny. Aiding North Korean refugees is a goal that demands international involvement. With this in mind, I believe your "Let My People Go" campaign has truly drawn attention to the plight of North Korean refugees living in China and elsewhere. You have given a voice to those forced into silence.

The basic rights of humanity should never be denied by the forces of tyranny, and I stand by you and all Korean-Americans in your endeavor to bring justice to the oppressed people of North Korea.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim Ryan".

Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

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