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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

June 11, 2012

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
2201 C St NW Ste 7276
Washington DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

I write today to express my deep concern regarding the condition of Uyghur human rights activist Rebiya Kadeer's incarcerated sons, Alim and Ablikim. Ms. Kadeer has long been at the forefront of the fight for human rights in China. In addition to her role as a leading human rights activist, Ms. Kadeer is first and foremost a mother. Alim and Ablikim are currently imprisoned in Xinjiang's No. 3 Prison and No. 4 Prison, respectively. Alim is suffering from a lack of nutrition resulting in stomach problems and Ablikim's preexisting heart condition has worsened since being incarcerated.

While the human rights situation remains deplorable throughout China, China's ethnic and religious minorities face unique hardships. The State Department's own recently released 2011 Country Report of Human Rights in China mentioned Ms. Kadeer's situation:

"In 2009 the government announced it would demolish three buildings owned by the family of exiled Uighur leader Rebiya Kadeer, president of the World Uighur Conference. The government blamed Kadeer, a Uighur businesswoman in exile, for orchestrating the 2009 riots in Urumqi. At year's end the buildings had not been demolished but remained vacant and condemned. Two of Kadeer's sons also remained in prison."

My office recently found out that two of Ms. Kadeer's department stores in Urumchi will be demolished in response to her attendance at the 4th General Assembly of the World Uyghur Congress, May 14-17, 2012.

These actions are unacceptable – the U.S. must show that we stand with those who advocate for freedom and democracy. As (Secretary of State/U.S. Ambassador to China), I urge you to press the Chinese government to release Alim and Ablikim and to cease harassment of Ms. Kadeer's extended family. I further renew my request that you personally meet with Ms. Kadeer to learn more about her family's situation and the plight of her people. Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to your prompt response.

Best wishes.

Sincerely

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

2666
for Rebiya Kadeer
for her children
THANKS

1/10/12