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One Hundred and Eleventh Congress
Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission

September 14, 2009

Governor Jon Huntsman
C/O Department of State
China

Dear Ambassador Huntsman:

We write today to bring to your attention the cases of two Chinese prisoners, Wang Xiaoning and He Depu, and ask that you raise their cases in your conversations with Chinese government officials.

According to the Laogai Research Foundation, Wang Xiaoning was formally arrested on September 30, 2002, for "inciting to subvert state power" and is currently serving a 10-year prison sentence in solitary confinement. Active in the Chinese democracy movement, Wang submitted multiple essays to noted journals *China Research* and *Popular Topics* and posted to Yahoo! groups on the Internet. Additionally, Wang is the founder of China Third Road Party, a political party committed to promoting democracy and human rights in China. Wang's pro-democracy activities were discovered when Yahoo! Hong Kong turned over the contents of his e-mail to Chinese authorities.

He Depu was sentenced to eight years in prison for "subversion of state power" after he signed an open letter to the Chinese Communist Party calling for an end to "one party dictatorship" in October 2002. He is a founder of the China Democracy Party and has published 30 articles critical of the Chinese regime and calling for a democratic political system in China.

These two brave men languish in jail today solely on account of their efforts to bring freedom to the Chinese people. The United States government should always stand with those who call for freedom and liberty. With this in mind, we ask that you please raise the cases of Mr. Wang and Mr. He with Chinese officials and advocate for their speedy release.

We look forward to hearing of your progress on this matter.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

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