

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

February 22, 2016

The Honorable Cui Tiankai
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
3505 International Place, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador Cui Tiankai—

For the past 35 years, China has had a one-child policy of forced family planning to reduce the growth of the Chinese population. This policy has eliminated tens of millions of lives since the one-child policy was implemented.

The recent changes in China's family planning policy to allow two children per family has drawn international attention. Although initially this change appears to be positive, we continue to have grave concerns about the continuation of this abusive policy in any form. The new policy is not truly a reform – forcibly eliminating a family's third child rather than their second is still a human rights abuse.

In order to enforce this policy, many women have been forced to abort their “illegal” children or have been forcibly sterilized. Their families have been charged crippling monetary fines – sometimes up to ten times the average annual income of their locality. To escape this retribution, some women go into hiding, attempting to shield their child from the government's violence. According to reports, after birth, the child is regarded as less than a citizen and is barred from access to basic necessities, such as hospitals, schools, and even public transportation.

Every child is important and deserves the chance to make their mark on both China and the world. Changing the one-child policy to a two-child policy fails to affect any of these underlying human rights concerns. We as members of the human race cannot afford to lose so many of our global family due to outdated governmental policies.

We strongly encourage the government of China to abolish any population control measures and forced family planning policies. We encourage China to embrace the potential of all of their children and to look forward to a future that is greater because of all that these children and the next generation have to offer.

Sincerely,



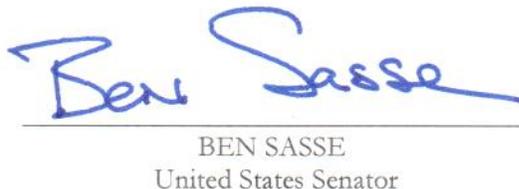
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