Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

March 24, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

As you prepare to meet with President Xi Jinping next month, we urge you to seek resolution of the case of Ezra Jin Mingri, a pastor and family member of American citizens, who was arbitrarily detained on October 10, 2025, alongside other leaders of the Zion Church by the People's Republic of China (PRC). We encourage you to advocate for their release and request the PRC to allow Mr. Jin to leave China, in addition to raising concerns regarding the ongoing unjust imprisonment and persecution of Christians, Tibetans, and Uyghurs, among other religious and ethnic minority groups across China.

The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), the U.S. Department of State, and religious freedom and human rights organizations have long documented violations of religious freedom targeting Christian communities and other religious groups across China. These abuses include arbitrary detentions, lengthy prison sentences, forced closures of places of worship, destruction of religious property, and surveillance and intimidation of clergy and congregants.

The United States has made important strides in advancing international religious freedom. Through the International Religious Freedom Act, the Administration is empowered to use targeted sanctions and increase reporting and diplomatic engagement to support your efforts to address severe violations of individuals' right to freedom of religion.

Accordingly, we urge you to:

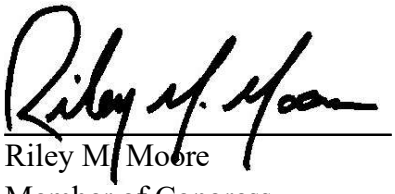
1. Seek resolution of the case of Ezra Jin Mingri and other leaders of the Zion Church, Yayang Church, Light of Zion Church, and Early Rain Covenant Church while advocating for the release of all Christians and other religious groups unjustly imprisoned or detained for their religious beliefs with President Xi next month.
2. Utilize existing authorities, including targeted sanctions and visa restrictions, against individuals and entities responsible for severe violations of religious freedom.
3. Continue to champion international religious freedom, including in U.S.–China policy.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

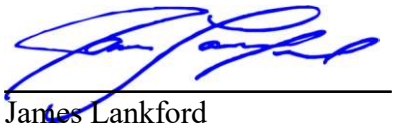
Ted Budd
United States Senator

Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Riley M. Moore
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



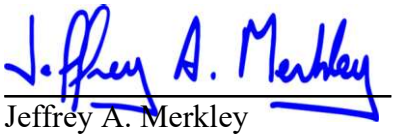
James Lankford
United States Senator

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator

Angela D. Alsobrooks
United States Senator

Tim Sheehy
United States Senator

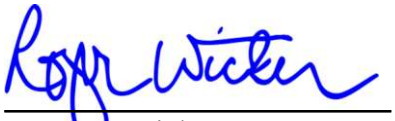


Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

Peter Welch
United States Senator

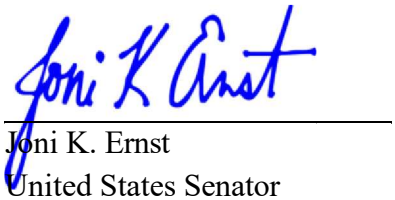
James C. Justice
United States Senator

Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator

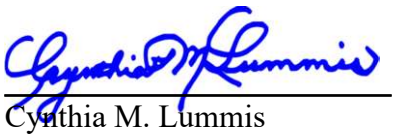


Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator

Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

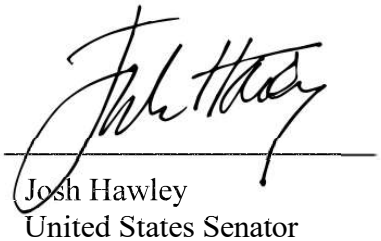
Katie Boyd Britt
United States Senator

Ted Cruz
United States Senator

Pete Ricketts
United States Senator

Tim Scott
United States Senator

Mitch McConnell
United States Senator



Josh Hawley
United States Senator

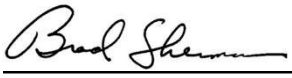
John Rose
Member of Congress

Young Kim
Member of Congress

María Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

Barry Moore
Member of Congress

Tim Moore
Member of Congress

Addison P. McDowell
Member of Congress