

Yuan, whose repeated requests for medical parole for Chen were ignored by prison authorities, said she is still very concerned about her husband's health.

"I am most worried about the continuing diarrhea and the persistent cough," Yuan said. "For the first few days after his release he couldn't speak at all."

She said Chen had lost a lot of weight in jail. "He has a lot of grey hair and he has a sort of haunted look," she said.

Chen suffered beatings while in Shandong's Linyi municipal prison in June 2007 for "being disobedient" after launching an appeal against his conviction to a higher court.

"GIVE HIS FREEDOM BACK"

Chen, a self-taught lawyer, was detained repeatedly, beaten, and kept under surveillance after he helped local people take legal action against the Linyi municipal government in cases of alleged forced abortion.

Beijing-based civil rights lawyer Li Subin said Chen should have his freedom back now that his jail term has ended.

"Instead, the state-run prison has followed him back home, where he is still imprisoned under house arrest," Li said. "We have been working towards democracy and the rule of law for 30 years in this country, and we can still see cruelty like this today."

"But if everyone takes this issue seriously, I don't see how the gangster behavior of the local government and the banditry of the local judiciary can carry on for too long."

Meanwhile, Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), a senior member of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, in a statement called on the Chinese government to release Chen from house arrest.

"The prison release of Chen Guangcheng, one of China's most heroic human rights defenders, is good news but only a step in the right direction," said Smith.

"The fact that Chen remains under house arrest, imprisoned in his own home, and is reportedly in need of urgent medical attention, must not be ignored. I appeal to the Chinese government to let Chen move about freely and ensure that he has access to the care he needs."

Chen Guangcheng's work exposed a culture of secrecy and impunity among Chinese officials about the enforcement of China's population control policy.

Local officials have admitted to taking draconian measures when they have difficulty meeting population targets imposed by Beijing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. For those of you who may be watching on your C-SPAN at home, you may wonder how it is that everything just has to be broken down Republican versus Democrat, right versus left. I think there is one special interest group in our country that

there shouldn't be any disagreement about, it's a good special interest. And that's our Nation's veterans.

We are consumed right now with a lot of problems our country has. But perhaps the families that's facing the greatest challenges right now are the families that have already borne the biggest sacrifice so that we could have elections today in my State and other States across the country and we could have an election this November.

We are very good in this country at getting down on ourselves, berating our political system, saying it's no good. After you hear a colleague of mine like that talk about China, I think people get the picture of the fact we've got it pretty good in this country. For all intents and purposes it's not perfect, but as Winston Churchill said, "Democracy's the worst form of government except for all the others." Most places of the world people don't have rights of any kind even to lobby, a lobbyist, or a special interest. They just don't have rights.

What makes our country so great and what we stand for as a people so great is that we can speak our mind. We can come to the floor and talk, just as my colleague did, about the one child per family policy in China. We can talk about the economy, as my other colleagues did before that.

But let's just stop for a second and understand one thing. We would not have an economy if terrorists were in our malls today blowing up backpacks. Because of our veterans, our soldiers who have borne the battle, those terrorists, in large part due to their work, have been kept over there as opposed to coming here. Yes, that's cost us a lot of money as a country to fight those wars.

But the cost, the indelible costs of this war is on those veterans who have suffered what many people would like to think, because there are no cures, no interventions, no treatments, permanent chronic damage as a result of the physical torment their bodies, their brains took serving our country.

I am here to say good news. Good news is that if this country comes to our veterans' side and decides not just to talk a good game about supporting our veterans, but actually that we're going to do whatever it takes to save those veterans, because we constantly say, oh, the war is over, oh, the combat operations are over.

□ 1920

We are bringing them home safely. Try telling that to a veteran with traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress. The combat operations as we know them may have been concluded officially, but their war is just beginning, their war against the disabling symptoms of their service, of the casualties of their experience, fighting for us, saving our country, saving this world from more 9/11s.

So what's our attitude going to be? Are we going to come to their rescue, or are we just going to talk a good game? Within the next couple of years we can come in with new cell recuperation, through stem cell research, restore and repair damaged brains, with the knowledge that we have of genetics. We can help avert all kinds of the other challenges they are going to face higher risks for because of their exposure to all of these conflicts on our behalf. They are going to be high risk.

We can turn all those trip wires off with the research we can do now, not in 2 years from now, not in 4 years from now, not in any period of time. Because if you are one of those veterans and you have come home and you are suffering, you are saying to yourself, how long is it going to take before I get relief, before someone comes in and saves me as a prisoner of my war injury.

We shouldn't make them wait any longer than is necessary to get to the cures and the answers that are going to set them free.

FINDINGS IDENTIFYING CHANGES IN LAW TO HELP ACHIEVE DEFICIT REDUCTION SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1463

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as you know, House Rule X entrusts the Committee on House Administration with responsibility for, among other matters, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, United States Capitol Police, Printing and correction of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Federal elections and other services to the House.

The Committee strenuously exercises its oversight authority by routinely meeting with the Legislative Branch agencies, the Officers and Inspector General of the House, and the Smithsonian Institution. Through this rigorous oversight the Committee has identified and implemented policies to reduce waste, eliminate fraud, and mitigate inefficiencies.

Among the Committee's recent work:

Passed H.R. 4825, to make permanent the law dedicating the unspent balances of Members Representational Allowances to deficit and debt reduction (measure is now pending in the Senate);

Passed H.R. 3690, 110th Cong. (became Pub. L. 110-178), merging the United States Capitol Police and the Library of Congress Police; during 111th Congress, oversaw merger process resulting in elimination of needless duplication of responsibilities, achievement of administrative savings and enhanced security for the Capitol campus;

Passed H.R. 1299, 111th Cong. (became Pub. L. 111-145), clarifying sundry laws related to the administration of the United States Capitol Police and streamlining USCP operations;

Partnered with the Smithsonian Inspector General in the development and implementation of a return-to-work program that transitions injured employees' return to appropriate work with a requirement that claimants provide updated medical reports; the Smithsonian estimates potential savings of nearly \$2.1 million in workers' compensation costs;

Strengthened accountability for personal property at the Smithsonian Institution by requiring the agency to initiate regular inventories, leading to reduced agency spending to replace lost or stolen items;

Disapproved Library of Congress plan to spend nearly \$20 million for a new book-conveyor system, resulting in its cancellation;

Instructed the Library of Congress to develop a cost-benefit analysis for all Information Technology investments in excess of \$100,000 including developing of internal controls to eliminate redundant hardware and software purchases across business units;

Worked with the Inspector General of the House of Representatives to develop a cost-benefit analysis of the Chief Administrative Officer's joint effort with the Architect of the Capitol to deploy compact-fluorescent light bulbs within House office buildings, revealing potential savings of \$1.18 million over ten years;

Instructed the Architect of the Capitol to develop and implement a procedure for assessing a tenant at the House Alternate Computing Facility for additional operating costs (e.g., electricity, facilities maintenance) properly chargeable to the tenant under the terms of the lease, revealing an additional amount of over \$1 million due the taxpayer;

For the fiscal years 2010 and 2011, consulted with other congressional committees, the Congressional Budget Office, and the President's Office of Management and Budget to reduce the number of printed copies of the multi-volume President's Budget and instead to substitute distribution of the CD-ROM version wherever appropriate, resulting in savings to both the Executive branch and Congress; and

Worked with the Government Printing Office's Inspector General to block execution of a contract for delivery of human-resources and payroll-related services to certain elements of the agency instead of relying on GPO's agency-wide system, and encouraged the IG to redouble efforts to improve human resources' performance across GPO.

Among the Committee's recommendations for additional improvements are:

Extend beyond 2013 the current authority for levying of administrative fines by the Federal Election Commission pursuant to Pub. L. 110-433;

Strengthen the Speaker's new travel rules by requiring House committee chairmen to certify the existence of a bona-fide need for foreign travel under the Mutual Security Act. Repeal the law (44 U.S.C. 723) requiring compilation and publication of memorial tribute volumes in honor of deceased Representatives and Senators;

Repeal authority for printing of sundry government publications now required by law but determined to be of little use or value, e.g., the "United States Treaties and Other International Agreements" authorized by 1 U.S.C. 112a;

Reform Procurement practice of the Library of Congress;

Improve in-house technical support at the Library of Congress and Government Printing

Office, reducing reliance on costly contractors; and

Require implementation of Performance Based Budgeting at the Library of Congress. Merge the Government Printing Office Police with the United States Capitol Police.

The Committee will also continue its oversight of the Legislative Branch and continually work to identify opportunities to reduce waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement in the operations of our agencies.

REPUBLIC CREATED FOR UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to be here tonight. I guess everybody is just really pleased to be back in Washington, DC and having to leave those wonderful districts we live in and come up to this place.

But you know I am blessed. I live in Texas and I am glad to be here tonight so we can talk about something, again, about a subject I have been talking about in various degrees for about 19 months now and that is we do have a rule of law that is the underpinning of our society. We started, when we decided to create this great Republic, we started, decided that we would codify that rule of law and one of the best written documents on the face of the Earth, I happen to have a little copy of it right here, in pocket size form, the Constitution of the United States.

In this Constitution of the United States, we not only set out how the newly formed union of the States would operate with a newly formed national government, but it set out how this body would operate, how the executive branch would operate, how the judiciary would operate.

In my lifetime, I have been blessed by my neighbors because we elect our judges as well as our Representatives. In Texas, I have been blessed by my neighbors to serve in two branches of our government, because with the basic Constitution of the United States establishing a legislative branch, an executive branch and a judicial branch, all the States basically follow that same general guideline and now, around the world, democracies that have sprung up from this longest lived democratic process called the United States Government, the Republic that we created for the United States. Others have, using various forms of democracy, have followed the general pattern.

When we talk to a young kid like a, let's say, an elementary school, kindergarten, up to sixth-grade student, talk about the three branches of government, you talk about the legislative branch that writes the laws, the executive branch that enforces the laws that the legislature wrote and the judicial branch, which enforces the law and in-

terprets the law. Now that's basically what we talk about here. It's very simple, and it's very real, and that's really what we are supposed to have here.

One of our jobs, as guardians of this document called the Constitution, and this system we call the United States of America, and its Federal Government, one of the things we have a responsibility to do is we have a responsibility to stay in check and balance on the other part of the three branches of the government. The judiciary has got checks and balances on both the executive and the legislative. The legislative has checks and balances on the judiciary and the executive. The executive adds checks and balances to the appointment process on the judiciary and the legislative.

So our Founding Fathers said not only are we going to have these three branches of government, but it's the responsibility of those branches to make sure other branches aren't going haywire, because they come from the place of government where the branch of government went haywire all the time and they were fed up with autocratic kings and the royalty of the various nations that they had come from to come across the oceans of the United States, and they wanted to make sure that nobody dominated, stepped on each other's toes.

I have been talking about the fact that all of this falls under that great category that we sort of envisioned, now the world needs and adopts, and that is the rule of law. A civil society cannot operate without rules, not only that police the society, but that the society can count on as they move through commerce or through interaction with other human beings to be the rules that you play by.

Just like Americans love our games, baseball, basketball, football, not necessarily in that order, and other games, we love our games, and we want to make sure, and we are the first ones to jump up and scream, they are breaking the rules, because you can't play the game without rules. This body here has a real responsibility to create those rules. We write laws which are the Big Brothers, the rules, and we give rule-making authority to people, but authority comes from this Congress.

So having that glue the whole society, now you ask me well, yes, that may sound good for America but not everybody needs that. Well, let me ask you something, if you are going to go make a deal with your neighbor over the boundary line between your property in some country in Central America, and you are trying to make, to determine where this boundary line is and you find out you don't have any rules about titles to property, so nobody really knows where the boundaries are, how do you solve that problem?

Well, you could solve it by whoever had the biggest stick and go beat each other's brains out and whoever won will get to decide where the property