

SENATE RESOLUTION 677—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD PRIORITIZE SECURING THE RELEASE OF PASTOR JIN MINGRI, PASTOR GAO QUANFU AND HIS WIFE PANG YU, DR. GULSHAN ABBAS, AND JIMMY LAI DETAINED BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA DURING FUTURE ENGAGEMENTS WITH CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. KAINE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. CURTIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 677

Whereas the Government of the People's Republic of China has arrested Chinese, American, and British citizens for the peaceful expression of speech or religion, or such acts by family members;

Whereas such arrests have been widely condemned by the international community and human rights organizations, with repeated calls for the release of the detainees;

Whereas, on May 17, 2025, Pastor Gao Quanfu of the Light of Zion Church in Xi'an Province was detained and is being held on charges of "using superstitious activities to undermine the implementation of law" and "fraud";

Whereas Pastor Gao's wife, Pang Yu, who was subsequently detained on June 7, 2025, remains held despite holding no official position in the church, and has been denied access to critical prescription medication;

Whereas, on or about October 10, 2025, authorities of the People's Republic of China detained Pastor Jin Mingri, founder of Zion Church, along with other church leaders, on equally dubious charges of "illegal use of information networks";

Whereas Pastor Jin continues to be detained without access to critical medications to treat diabetes or contact with family members in the People's Republic of China and the United States;

Whereas, on November 7, 2025, the Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 463, calling for the "immediate and unconditional release of all detained members of Zion Church, including Pastor Jin" and for the Government of the People's Republic of China to end "harassment and intimidation of the relatives of Zion church members and their relatives";

Whereas Gulshan Abbas, a retired medical doctor and grandmother, was forcibly disappeared on September 11, 2018, shortly after her sister, a United States citizen, publicly criticized the treatment of Uyghurs by the Government of the People's Republic of China;

Whereas Dr. Abbas was later sentenced to 20 years following secret proceedings on charges that independent observers and human rights organizations have characterized as politically motivated;

Whereas the prolonged detention of Dr. Abbas raises grave concerns regarding her health, wellbeing, and access to due process, as she suffers from severe high blood pressure and osteoporosis, among other conditions;

Whereas, on July 25, 2024, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate unanimously passed an amendment to Senate Bill 4797, 118th Congress, restricting United States visas for "Government officials of the

People's Republic of China about whom the Secretary of State has credible information have been involved in the wrongful detention of Gulshan Abbas";

Whereas, in 1995, Jimmy Lai founded the Apple Daily newspaper in Hong Kong and subsequently faced repeated harassment and arrest, including a 69 month sentence in 2022, on dubious fraud charges and a subsequent 20 year sentence in February 2026, on equally dubious national security charges;

Whereas, in December 2025, President Donald Trump said he had asked Chinese President Xi Jinping to consider releasing Jimmy Lai;

Whereas, on December 4, 2025, House Resolution 930 was introduced commemorating Jimmy Lai and calling on authorities of the People's Republic of China to "immediately and unconditionally release Jimmy Lai and all other Hong Kong pro-democracy advocates unjustly imprisoned"; and

Whereas addressing individual cases of wrongful detention has historically been an important component of United States diplomacy, reflects longstanding bipartisan commitments to political and religious freedoms, and is an important factor in United States bilateral relations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls upon the President to prioritize securing the humanitarian release of Pastor Jin Mingri, Pastor Gao Quanfu and his wife Pang Yu, Dr. Gulshan Abbas, Jimmy Lai, and other wrongly detained individuals on the agenda for engagements with President Xi Jinping, including the anticipated May 2026 summit;

(2) urges the President to seek verifiable proof of life and access to independent legal counsel, family communication, and medical care for such detainees; and

(3) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to defend political and religious freedom and advocate for the release of those wrongfully detained for exercising such fundamental freedoms.

SENATE RESOLUTION 678—PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS FOR TRAVEL BY SENATORS TO OR FROM THEIR RESIDENCE DURING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS

Mrs. MOODY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 678

Resolved,

SECTION 1. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR TRAVEL BY SENATORS TO OR FROM THEIR RESIDENCE DURING GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS.

Amounts made available to a Senator from the Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account may not be obligated or expended to directly pay for, or reimburse a Senator for, the cost of travel by the Senator between the seat of Government and the primary residence of the Senator during a period during which there is a lapse in appropriations for 1 or more Federal agencies.

SENATE RESOLUTION 679—RECOGNIZING APRIL 14, 2026, AS "WORLD QUANTUM DAY", AND COMMEMORATING AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF WORLD QUANTUM DAY

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. COLLINS)

submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 679

Whereas quantum physics describes nature at the scale of atoms and subatomic particles;

Whereas "World Quantum Day" is celebrated by scientists in more than 70 countries to promote public understanding of quantum science and technology around the world;

Whereas the United States has recognized quantum information science, engineering, and technology as a key technology area for economic competition;

Whereas quantum information science, engineering, and technology can solve problems that current technologies and computing methods cannot;

Whereas quantum physics helps us to understand and develop technologies critical to everyday life, such as GPS, semiconductors, and lasers;

Whereas quantum information science, engineering, and technology may be able to make transformative breakthroughs in fields as varied as logistics, material sciences, and life sciences;

Whereas quantum information science is a multidisciplinary field, bridging science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (referred to in this preamble as "STEM");

Whereas STEM is a critical part of education for children, and aptitude in STEM is essential for a knowledge-based society and for economic competition;

Whereas the United States needs to reinforce STEM education for all students in order to better prepare children for future careers in emerging technologies, including quantum, to succeed in a 21st-century economy;

Whereas STEM can be a fun and interesting part of education for children, and learning about quantum principles of superposition and entanglement can be an engaging way to teach children and attract children to study STEM;

Whereas the Planck constant is a fundamental constant governing quantum physics, which is used to define universal measurements such as the kilogram; and

Whereas the rounded first significant digits of the Planck constant are 4.14, and thus April 14 of each year is internationally recognized as "World Quantum Day": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes April 14, 2026, as "World Quantum Day";

(2) supports the goals of World Quantum Day to recognize and celebrate the role that quantum physics plays in our daily lives; and

(3) encourages schools and educators to observe World Quantum Day with appropriate activities that teach students about quantum physics and engage students in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I have two requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges for the day: Hanna Schechter, Rosemary Lofstrom, Molly Birr, and Juliette Sanchez.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING APRIL 14, 2026, AS
WORLD QUANTUM DAY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 679, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 679) recognizing April 14, 2026, as "World Quantum Day", and commemorating and supporting the goals of World Quantum Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 679) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's (legislative day of April 14, 2026) RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 17,
2026

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until 10 a.m. on Friday, April 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:36 p.m., recessed until Friday, April 17, 2026, at 10 a.m.