Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3705

July 20, 2023

Dear Oregon Falun Dafa Association,

Thank you for inviting me to participate in recognizing and condemning the human rights abuses of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) against Falun Gong practitioners. As you commemorate and reflect on 24 years of this campaign of persecution, I want to extend my sincerest support and express my solidarity in your fight against oppression.

Similarly, I commend your efforts to bring attention to the CCP's human rights violations which often go unnoticed, or even ignored. The stories I have heard of arbitrary detentions, torture, extrajudicial killings, and forced organ harvesting against Falun Gong practitioners are nothing short of heartbreaking and unfortunately just one example of the CCP's lack of recognition of basic human dignity.

We are blessed to live in a country that recognizes the inalienable right of everyone to practice his or her own religion without government persecution. Yet we sometimes forget that this universal freedom is not recognized by all governments around the world and it is often taken for granted.

I look forward to the day when Falun Gong practitioners and all religious minorities in China can experience freedom of religion without fear of persecution. I appreciate the work you are doing to bring awareness to this ongoing tragedy and encourage you to remain steadfast in the struggle for freedom.

Sincerely,

Lori Chavez-DeReme Member of Congress