

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATOR FESI

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request state and local law enforcement agencies to cooperate with federal authorities in discovering and closing clandestine branches of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security.

WHEREAS, in April 2023, two men were arrested on charges that they helped establish a secret police station in New York City on behalf of the Chinese government, and three dozen officers with China's national police force were charged with using social media to harass dissidents inside the United States; and

WHEREAS, these cases are part of a series of United States Department of Justice prosecutions in recent years aimed at disrupting Chinese government efforts to locate and suppress pro-democracy activists and others in the United States who are openly critical of Beijing's policies; and

WHEREAS, one of these New York cases concerns a local branch of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security that was operating in an office building in Manhattan's Chinatown neighborhood before closing last fall amid an FBI investigation; and

WHEREAS, two men arrested were acting under the direction and control of a Chinese government official, and these men deleted communication with the Chinese official from their phones after learning of the FBI's probe in an effort to obstruct the inquiry; and

WHEREAS, China is believed to be operating secret police outposts not only in the United States but in countries around the globe; and

WHEREAS, while these stations may perform some basic and legitimate services, such as helping Chinese citizens renew their Chinese driver's licenses, they also serve a more sinister function, namely, to help the Chinese government locate pro-democracy activists in the United States; and

WHEREAS, these stations further allow the Chinese government to engage in "transnational repression", whereby the Chinese government works to identify, intimidate, and silence dissidents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, these secret police stations constitute a blatant violation of America's national sovereignty and amount to a brazen effort to trample the rights and liberties that are the bedrock of our American democracy; and

WHEREAS, state and local law enforcement agencies across the country should assist and cooperate with the United States Department of Justice in its efforts to defend our democracy, our democratic institutions, and our sovereignty.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request state and local law enforcement agencies to cooperate with federal authorities in discovering and closing clandestine branches of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security serving as secret police stations in the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Department of Public Safety, office of state police, the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, and the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES