



CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA

December 3, 2004

Mr. Zhang Fusen, Minister
Ministry of Justice
No. 10 South Chaoyangmen Avenue
Beijing, PRC 100020

Dear Minister Zhang:

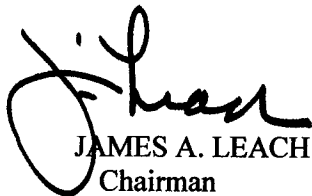
We write to express concern about the continued imprisonment of Jude Shao, an American citizen, and to ask for Mr. Shao's release on medical parole, as permitted by law.

We have been informed that Mr. Shao's health has deteriorated, and that he now suffers from a heart ailment that urgently requires treatment. In June 2004, Mr. Shao's mother filed a request for medical parole with the prison authorities; the U.S. Embassy in Beijing also expressed support for the petition through a diplomatic note. To date, the prison authorities have not responded to the request, and the Foreign Ministry has not replied to the Embassy's diplomatic note.

Mr. Shao's eligibility for medical parole offers an opportunity to resolve a case that has become an irritant in U.S. – China relations. If the director of the prison in which Mr. Shao is detained were to recommend that a court grant medical parole, Americans would view the decision as a significant humanitarian gesture that would benefit both countries as we work together to strengthen our bilateral relationship.

We hope that the Ministry will urge the prison director to act promptly and positively on Mr. Shao's mother's request for medical parole.

Sincerely,


JAMES A. LEACH
Chairman


CHUCK HAGEL
Co-Chairman

Jim Leach, Chairman • Chuck Hagel, Co-Chairman

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