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June 10, 2002

The Honorable Clark T. Randt, Jr.
Ambassador
Embassy of the United States
Beijing, China
VIA FACSIMILE 011-86-10-6532-6422

Dear Ambassador Randt,

I am writing on behalf of Charles Hoover. Mr. Hoover has asked that I communicate the case of his friend, Jude Shao, to the United States Embassy in China.

According to Mr. Hoover, his friend has been imprisoned in Shanghai's Qing Pu prison since April, 1998. I am aware that while in a foreign country a US Citizen is subject to that country's laws and regulations, but the US Embassy can play a vital role to ensure fair and humane treatment to US Citizens incarcerated abroad. However, Mr. Hoover has asked that I share that Mr. Shao was held in prison for 26 months without a trial. Additionally, Mr. Shao reports that after he was convicted of tax evasion, he was given a 16-year sentence based on evidence that he was not allowed to review. I was advised that after Mr. Shao had the opportunity to review the evidence, he discovered errors that would not allow the conviction to stand.

Mr. Hoover is worried that Mr. Shao has nearly exhausted the judicial process in China, and he would like the US Embassy to be aware of this situation to ensure that Mr. Shao is afforded due process under local law. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress

TB:ssp