



**STEVE WESTLY**  
*California State Controller*

April 13, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I urge you to raise the case of Mr. Jude Shao during your upcoming meetings with Chinese President Hu Jintao.

As you know, Mr. Shao is an American citizen currently serving a sixteen-year sentence in Qing Pu Prison. Mr. Shao was convicted on dubious charges of tax evasion, and he continues to maintain his innocence.

In 2003, six prominent Chinese legal experts reviewed Mr. Shao's case. They concluded that not only was there insufficient evidence to convict Mr. Shao, but according to Chinese law, Mr. Shao is entitled to a retrial. The Chinese Supreme Court has since rejected Mr. Shao's final petition to overturn his conviction. However, Mr. Shao's advocates argue that the Court ignored several relevant facts in making its decision.

Mr. Shao has now served eight years of his excessively long and unjust sentence. It is clear that these past eight years have taken a severe toll on Mr. Shao, and that serving the remainder of his sentence will be seriously detrimental to his health. The United States Embassy in Beijing supports Mr. Shao's efforts to secure a medical parole, and Ambassador Clark Randt has taken the unprecedented step of personally visiting Mr. Shao in prison to evaluate his condition.

I strongly urge you to stress the importance of Mr. Shao's release to the Chinese president.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Westly".

STEVE WESTLY

cc: The Honorable Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Zhou Wenzhong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the  
People's Republic of China