

SCR102

SUPPORTING THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA'S EFFORTS
TOWARD PEACEFUL
REUNIFICATION OF THE
KOREAN PENINSULA AND
URGING THE DEMOCRATIC
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
KOREA TO ENGAGE IN
SINCERE REUNIFICATION
DIALOGUE WITH THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

Senator Gilbert Kahele, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair
Committee on Tourism and International Affairs

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National Unification Advisory Council, Hawaii Chapter

Monday, March 30, 2015

**Support for SCR 102 – SUPPORTING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S EFFORTS TOWARD
PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND URGING THE
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO ENGAGE IN SINCERE REUNIFICATION
DIALOGUE WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.**

It is a very encouraging event for Hawaii State Senate to be discussing a resolution that urges Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("North Korea") to engage in dialogue with Republic of Korea for its improvement of human rights, openness to the outside world, abandonment of any nuclear goals, and peaceful reunification.

State of Hawaii must urge this course, and it is critical for North Korea to pursue this path for world peace, especially for peace in North East Asia and its continued improvement of cultural exchange and mutual development with Hawaii.

The 46 members of the Hawaii Chapter of National Unification Advisory Council and the Korean-American citizens of Hawaii praise and applaud the introduction of this resolution.

North Korea's nuclear pursuits, human rights violations, blockade of outside contact, boycott of peaceful dialogue, and its severe poverty level remains as the biggest element of threat to world peace.

Republic of Korea's policy toward North Korea has been "Korean Peninsula Trust Process". It is the reunification policy of building trust thru small steps in resolving issues that appear to be difficult and complex in a peaceful manner. It advises North Korea to be a normal member of the international community. Should North Korea abandon its nuclear goals that threaten humanity and open its doors to engage in sincere dialogue, it is Republic of Korea's policy to aggressively assist North Korea to resolve many of its problems such as economic hardship.

North Korea is not accepting this proposal by Republic of Korea. Instead it has been consistent with resistance and threats.

If North Korea accepts offer of sincere dialogue and enters the road to peaceful reunification, it will be the historical beginning of the era of world peace, the era of peace in North East Asia.

North Korea's military threat to Republic of Korea and United States has been increasingly brazen. Examples include testing its guided missile system in response to annually held ROK-U.S. Combined Forces exercises, and issuing statements that are blatantly threatening.

North Korea continues to deny any illegal provocations nor offers any apologies. It simply refutes its association to any wrong doings. Many agreements with the international community have been nullified due to North Korea's unilateral breach. This is North Korea today.

The 12 yearlong United Nations investigation and last year's report by United Nations Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights Violations in North Korea detailing the existence of violations has fallen on deaf years in North Korea.

We do not know fully the condition of North Korea due to its blockade of the outside world. However, we do know that there are people dying of severe poverty and starvation while being oppressed by the regime. We also know that just so that one individual can hold onto his power, nuclear goals are being pursued while it is unacceptable to the rest of the world.

I strongly applaud Senate Concurrent Resolution #102 which seeks to urge North Korea to choose the right path.

Testimony

I am a first generation Korean American immigrated to US 40 Years ago and I strongly support for the Bill #SCR 102 initiated by senator Susanne Chun Oakland of Senate concurrent Resolution.

It is so apparent that the current inhabitant's living conditions between South Korea (Republic Of Korea) and the North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) since the Korean War ended on July 27, 1953 until present time is like from one extreme to another in various fields such as basic Human rights which are permitted to us by constitution but not in the North Korea. Many of witnesses' testimonies and reports about the basic Human Rights in North Korea and its statistics are easy to find around us.

These two different regimes' political policies and actual current living conditions in their inhabitants are another reason why I advocate the bill #SCR 102 for Two Korea's unification should be done in peacefully and democratic manner. Thank you so very much to hear my testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert Kim', with a stylized, flowing script.

Albert Kim

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