IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 1

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRE-SENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CON-GRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has done irreparable damage to countries across the globe, causing sickness, death, economic disruption, and human suffering; and

WHEREAS, in Idaho, thousands have been infected, many have died, families have been separated from dying loved ones, small businesses are shuttering their doors, and those living paycheck to paycheck are struggling to put food on the table; and

WHEREAS, by late December 2019, Chinese government health officials had evidence of human-to-human transmission, but until January 20, 2020, Chinese officials continued to insist that there was no evidence of human-to-human transmission; and

WHEREAS, the Chinese government lied to the world about the danger and contagious nature of COVID-19, silenced whistleblowers, denied human-to-human transmission in the face of mounting evidence, and did little to stop the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, reports indicate that Chinese government officials, while they were concealing the outbreak, began hoarding quality personal protective equipment (PPE) while permitting only defective PPE to be exported to the rest of the world, thus endangering the lives of health care workers and first responders in other countries; and

WHEREAS, the actions of the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party caused millions of people across the globe to be exposed to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Chinese government is a dictatorship that is responsible for the deaths of tens of millions of people in its history and is currently waging genocide against the Uighur people in western China.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-sixth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party should be held accountable for their crimes against humanity, their horrendously irresponsible and deceitful handling of the COVID-19 outbreak, and the deadly aftermath that followed all over the world. The Idaho Legislature believes the Communist Chinese government to be a hostile state and that the Chinese government should be sanctioned for its misdeeds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.