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## House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 13, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

### VIOLENCE IN XINJIANG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great concern regarding the recent violence and loss of life in Xinjiang Uyghur autonomous region.

While much is still unknown about the events which transpired over the past week, due to the Chinese Government's strict control and monitoring of foreign journalists, the situation devolved into an explosion of anger between Han Chinese and Uyghur citizens.

President Hu and senior Chinese officials have vowed to severely punish in-

dividuals connected to the protests, including through the use of the death penalty.

The Chinese Government's longstanding persecution and repression of the Uyghur people is well documented, including by our own Department of State, as is the government's history of covering up abuses and reacting violently in the face of peaceful protests.

The Chinese Government must allow an independent, international investigation into the events surrounding the week's past violence. I have urged the State Department to work toward that end.

The Chinese Government has blamed the unrest on Nobel Peace Prize nominee and human rights activist Rebiya Kadeer. This is eerily reminiscent of the Chinese Government blaming last year's protests in Tibet on the Dalai Lama. Both the Dalai Lama and Rebiya Kadeer have been made scapegoats by the Chinese communist government, and both are champions for their people.

Rebiya Kadeer suffered in prison for 5 years before she was released to come to the United States. After her release, two of her sons were arrested and remain today languishing in jail for crimes they did not commit.

Amazingly, the reach of the Chinese Government does not stop at its borders. In 2006, Rebiya Kadeer called my office seeking assistance because she noticed a suspicious vehicle outside her home in northern Virginia. After checking with the FBI, we learned that the vehicle had been rented by individuals connected with the Chinese Government.

In a recent opinion piece she wrote for the Wall Street Journal, Rebiya Kadeer condemned the use of violence on both sides and called on the United States to speak out against oppression in China and monitor daily human rights abuses perpetrated by the Chinese Government.

Today, I sent a letter to President Obama asking that senior officials of the National Security Council and the State Department immediately meet with Ms. Kadeer to discuss the events in Xinjiang and the U.S. response.

President Obama is a father and Secretary Clinton is a mother, so they can understand well the anguish that Rebiya Kadeer feels as she considers the fate of her own children and grandchildren, particularly in light of this most recent violence and unrest.

Failure to meet with Rebiya Kadeer would be reminiscent of 1975 when famed Soviet dissident Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn visited Washington, D.C. and the city's foreign policy establishment sought to obstruct him at every turn. He was refused a meeting with President Ford, who declined to meet with him fearing it would sour an upcoming meeting with Soviet leader Brezhnev.

I sincerely hope this administration does not repeat this mistake.

### WATCHING OUT FOR AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today our Nation is suffering with tremendous economic problems, with unemployment reaching a 26-year high at 9.5 percent. Last month alone, our economy shed 467,000 jobs.

In December 2006, the U.S. had had 54 straight months of job growth, the longest in the history of this country. Democrats took over the Congress in January 2007, and our economy has been going downhill since then. Since January 2009 when President Obama became President and the Democrats continued to control Congress, things have really gone downhill.

Americans of all walks of life are hurting and cutting back as consumer

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g.,  1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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