Subject: China's Serious Concerns on Senator Hawley's New Xinjiang Bill **Date:** Monday, October 24, 2022 at 11:12:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: YANG ZOU LIU

To: Weihs, Chris (Hawley)

CC:

Dear Mr. Christopher Weihs,

I hope this email finds you well.

This is Liu Yangzou with the Chinese Embassy. I am writing this email to relay Counselor Li Xiang's letter below to you.

Dear Mr. Christopher Weihs,

This is Li Xiang, counselor with the Chinese Embassy.

I am reaching out to express China's strong indignation and serious concerns regarding Senator Hawley's new bill "Sanction Xi Jinping for Xinjiang Atrocities Act. Filled with ideology bias, this bill not only grossly interferes in China's internal affairs, but also points fingers at China's top leadership during the 20th CPC National Congress. Senator Hawley's action in disregard of global backlash is arrogant and despicable.

First, the 20th CPC National Congress was successfully concluded several days ago in Beijing. This is a meeting of great importance. In his important report to the Congress, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee Xi Jinping has emphasized that the leadership of the CPC, as the choice of China's history and Chinese people, is the most essential characteristic of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The CPC has always maintained a close bond with the people and remained a strong leadership core as we have upheld and developed socialism with Chinese characteristics. For the day forward, the central task of the CPC will be to lead the Chinese people of all ethnic groups in a concerted effort to realize the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects and to advance the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on all fronts through a Chinese path to modernization. However, senator Hawley is trying to smear the 20th CPC National Congress and the leadership of the CPC, to divide the relationship between the CPC and the Chinese people, and even dare to claim to "sanction" China's top leadership, which are blatantly working against the more than 96 million Party members and the 1.4 billion Chinese people, and are pure wishful thinking and will get nowhere.

Second, the issues related to Xinjiang are not about ethnicity, human rights or religion, but about anti-terrorism, antiseparatism and de-radicalization. From the 1990s to 2016, Xinjiang experienced thousands of violent terrorist attacks. Many innocent people were killed. Hundreds of policemen lost their lives. The economic losses were huge. People were scared, and had no sense of security. Just imagine, what would the US do if thousands of terrorist attacks happened here? No government would allow this to continue, or let extremist and terrorist ideas spread in their country. Therefore, the Chinese central and local governments took decisive measures to fight terrorism, and no terrorist attack has happened in Xinjiang for nearly six years now. Xinjiang has enjoyed sustained economic growth, social harmony and stability, better living standards, cultures thriving like never before, and freedom of religious beliefs and religious harmony. The so-called "genocide" is out-and-out lie. In the past 70 years, the Uighur population in Xinjiang has increased from 2.2 million to more than 12 million. People's average life expectancy has gone up from 30 to 74.7 years. Have you ever seen this kind of "genocide"? The so-called Xinjiang-related assessment issued by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the so-called "Xinjiang Police Files" were orchestrated and produced by the US and some Western forces and are completely illegal, null and void. More than 60 countries who care about truth and justice have sent a co-signed letter to the High Commissioner to express their opposition to the release of this untrue assessment. Nearly 1,000 non-governmental organizations from across the world have written to the High Commissioner to express their opposition. They are the mainstream of the international community. The US and some Western forces seek to destabilize Xinjiang and use it to contain China. This unjust, pernicious political agenda will not have people's support and will only end in failure.

Third, the current China-US relations have met serious difficulties. The root cause lies in the fact that the US side has continued the wrong policy towards China adopted by the previous administration, and treats China as "the most consequential geopolitical challenge". This is a serious misunderstanding and miscalculation. President Biden has repeatedly pledged that the US will not attack the CPC, not seek a "new Cold War", and not seek to change China's political system. The US side should abide by the commitments with consistent and concrete actions.

The Chinese side urges Senator Hawley to abandon the Cold-War zero-sum mentality and ideological prejudice against China, look at CPC and Chinese government's Xinjiang policy correctly, stop the advancement of this bill, stop any attack and smear against CPC and Chinese leadership, stop any action to undermine China's sovereignty and security, and stop moving even further down the wrong and dangerous path.

Please immediately pass along the above solemn positions to Senator Hawley himself.

Best, Li Xiang