

TOM COTTON



SENATOR FOR ARKANSAS

Factsheet: Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act

Background

- The international trafficking of forcibly harvested human organs is a barbaric practice that the United States Congress should immediately seek to end.
- Reports indicate that the People’s Republic of China is a major harvester and trafficker of forcibly acquired organs. Experts estimate that the human organ trafficking industry in China is worth \$1 billion a year, and is fueled by harvesting organs from China’s [1.5 million concentration camp inmates](#).
- In recent decades, Falun Gong practitioners have been the primary victims of this cruel practice. Experts fear that Uyghurs and other ethnic and religious minorities imprisoned in Chinese concentration camps may soon become additional sources of harvested organs.
- China appears to be the primary perpetrator of forcefully-acquired human organ trafficking, but it is not the only offender. Corrupt government officials, transnational criminal groups, and terrorist organizations around the world also traffic in forcibly harvested human organs.
- No matter what group, nation, or person is responsible, this inhumane practice must be stopped. States which turn a blind eye to this practice must also be pressured to take action.
- International pressure has made some headway in combatting forced organ harvesting, but the practice nevertheless continues. A more robust approach is therefore necessary.

Bill Summary

The Stop Forced Organ Harvesting Act:

- Authorizes the U.S. government to deny or revoke passports for illegal organ purchasers.
- Mandates annual reporting on forced organ harvesting in foreign countries. This State Department reporting would identify foreign officials and entities responsible for forced organ harvesting.
- Mandates an annual report on U.S. institutions that train organ transplant surgeons affiliated with foreign entities involved in forced organ harvesting.
- Prohibits the export of organ transplant surgery devices to entities responsible for forced organ harvesting.
- Sanctions foreign officials and entities that engage in or otherwise support forced organ harvesting.