Bill Number: SR #2020-17

Title: Socially Responsible Investing: Companies Complicit in and Profiting from Uyghur

Internment and Oppression, and the Suppression of Taiwan and Hong Kong

Sponsored by: Senators-at-Large Jireh Deng and Sumaiyah Hossain and Vice President Leen Almahdi

Date Submitted: March 13, 2020
Date Approved: April 8, 2020

WHEREAS the California State University (CSU) encourages CSU campuses to "embrace the culture and

heritage of their surrounding regions as sources of individuality and strength" and "protects the University as a forum for the discussion and critical examination of ideas, findings, and

conclusions;"1and

WHEREAS the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) Board of Directors at California State University, Long

Beach (CSULB) is the recognized voice for over 36,000 students; and

WHEREAS it is the mission of the ASI Board of Directors at CSULB to "facilitate the achievement of students'

educational objectives and life goals through programs, services, and facilities that advocate student needs and interests, compel student representation in campus decision making and provide students with resources that they identify as necessary for their intellectual, social and

physical development;"<sup>2</sup> and

WHEREAS the 2015-16 ASI Board of Directors passed SR #2016-11, which supported the 49er Foundation's

adopting of "an investment policy requiring socially responsible investing;" and

WHEREAS socially responsible investing is a strategy that considers the positive social and environmental

impacts of an investment decision;<sup>4</sup>and

WHEREAS the Uyghur population has more than 4000 years of history and independence in East Turkistan

that ended upon the Manchu invasion in 1876; and would later fall under Chinese Nationalist control in 1911, and despite further pursuits for independence, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) ended the East Turkestan Republic (ETR) in 1949; and the Xinjiang Uyghur

Autonomous Region was officially formed in 1955;5 and

WHEREAS most recent records indicate that the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region homes 47 different

ethnic groups, of which the Uyghur make up approximately 45%, the Han 40%, the Kazakh 6.7%,

and the Hui 4.5%;6and

WHEREAS the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States, states that Islam is among the

major religions in Xinjiang, and that Islam is the major religion among the Uyghurs;<sup>7</sup>and

Support 49er Foundation Adopt Socially Responsible Investing Policy.pdf

 ${}^4\underline{https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesfinancecouncil/2019/12/26/a-beginners-guide-to-socially-responsible-investing/\#7f67bb994862.}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www2.calstate.edu/csu-system/about-the-csu/Pages/mission.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.asicsulb.org/corporate/resources/about-us

<sup>3</sup> https://www.asicsulb.org/gov/documents/senate/resolutions/2015-2016/SR-2016-11-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.uyghurcongress.org/en/east-turkestan-2/

 $<sup>^{6}\,\</sup>underline{\text{https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Xinjiang\#Demographics}}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/zt/zfbps/t36560.htm

WHEREAS since 2017, more than 1 million Uyghurs have been detained in more than 85 identified,

internment camps – what the Chinese government acknowledges as "re-education centers" –

within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;8and

WHEREAS the internment camps – or what Chinese authorities refer to as "vocational education centers" –

force detained Uyghurs to learn Mandarin and be instructed in Communist Party propaganda; 9 10

and

WHEREAS that detained Uyghurs are separated from their families and forced into overcrowded cells where

they are tortured and subjected to cruel conditions of mental, physical, and sexual abuse in an

effort to make them renounce Islam; 11 12 13 and

**WHEREAS** that there is widespread surveillance, shutdown on U.S. press and social media, zero tolerance

and imprisonment for Chinese citizens in China and abroad who condemn the actions of the

Chinese government;14and

**WHEREAS** the Uyghur people have endured years of state sanctioned surveillance where any person who is

an activist, protestor, or ethnic Turkic person is placed on police databases;<sup>15</sup>and

**WHEREAS** the cultural genocide of the Uyghur people extends beyond forced internment and surveillance, it also includes the demolishment of century-old mosques, and the destruction of cemeteries and

other community spaces;<sup>16</sup> and

**WHEREAS** the following illustrates a list of restrictive measures Xinjiang legally sanctioned in March 2017, targeting the Islamic population within the region:

- Muslims of this region are prohibited from advocating for and propagating anything Chinese authorities deem Islamic, "extremist" thoughts
- Muslims of this region may not wear full-face coverings, hijab, or burga
- Muslims of this region may not hype religious fanaticism through the growing of beards or choosing names in an "abnormal way"
- Muslim children of this region must receive state education, thereby forcing assimilation and indoctrination
- Muslims of this region are prohibited from interfering or preventing the implementation of family planning policies
- Muslims of this region are prohibited from publishing, downloading or reading articles, publications and audio-video material containing or relating to Islamic content
- Muslims of this region may not reject or refuse state products and services that include radio and television programming;<sup>17</sup> and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://www.pbs.org/newshour/features/uighurs/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2020/02/asia/xinjiang-china-karakax-document-intl-hnk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/chinas-repression-uighurs-xinjiang

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://apnews.com/4ab0b341a4ec4e648423f2ec47ea5c47

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/chinas-repression-uighurs-xinjiang

<sup>13</sup> https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/09/15/china-xinjiang-children-separated-families#

<sup>14</sup> https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/120418 Busby Testimony.pdf

 $<sup>^{15}\,\</sup>underline{\text{https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/10/21/china-xinjiang-surveillance-state-police-targets/}$ 

 $<sup>^{16}\,\</sup>underline{https://www.cnn.com/2020/01/02/asia/xinjiang-uyghur-graveyards-china-intl-hnk/index.html}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.cnn.com/2017/03/31/asia/china-xinjiang-new-rules/index.html

### **WHEREAS**

that the deputy Assistant Secretary Scott Busby of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee states in his December 2018 testimony that there is a "mass detention of Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and members of other Muslim minority groups" in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region;<sup>18</sup> and

### **WHEREAS**

that the Chinese government has authorized the detainment of 800,000 to more than 2 million Uyghurs and other Muslim minority groups for undefined lengths of time and under unclear charges;<sup>19</sup>and

#### **WHEREAS**

the internment camps – or what Chinese authorities refer to as "vocational education centers" – force detainees to learn Mandarin and be instructed in Communist Party propaganda; and detainees are forced into overcrowded cells where they are subjected to cruel conditions of mental, physical, and sexual abuse;<sup>20</sup> <sup>21</sup> and

#### **WHEREAS**

in a letter to the United Nations Human Rights Council in July 2019, 22 countries, including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Austria, Ireland, and Spain, conveyed their concerns about "large-scale" detention, surveillance, and restrictive measures that specifically targeted Uyghurs and other minorities in Xinjiang, China;<sup>22</sup>and

#### **WHEREAS**

on October 7,2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce blacklisted 28 Chinese organizations found complicit in the violation and abuse of human rights, stating that "the U.S. Government and Department of Commerce cannot and will not tolerate the brutal suppression of ethnic minorities within China;" <sup>23</sup> and

### **WHEREAS**

the following lists some of the entities complicit in Uyghur internment and oppression<sup>24</sup>

- 1. Dahua Technology
- 2. Hikvision
- 3. IFLYTEK
- 4. Megvii Technology
- 5. Sense Time
- 6. Xiamen Meiya Pico Information Co. Ltd.
- 7. Yitu Technologies
- 8. Yixin Science and Technology Co. Ltd.
- 9. Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) People's Government Public Security Bureau, eighteen of its subordinate municipal and county public security bureaus
- 10. Aksu District Public Security Bureau
- 11. Altay Municipality Public Security Bureau
- 12. Bayingolin Mongolian Autonomous Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 13. Bortala Mongolian Autonomous Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 14. Changji Hui Autonomous Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 15. Hami Municipality Public Security Bureau

https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/120418 Busby Testimony.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/120418 Busby Testimony.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2020/02/asia/xinjiang-china-karakax-document-intl-hnk/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/chinas-repression-uighurs-xinjiang

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/supporting\_resources/190708\_joint\_statement\_xinjiang.pdf

 $<sup>{}^{23}\</sup>underline{\text{https://www.commerce.gov/news/press-releases/2019/10/us-department-commerce-adds-28-chinese-organizations-its-entity-list}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/10/09/2019-22210/addition-of-certain-entities-to-the-entity-list

- 16. Hetian Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 17. Kashgar Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 18. Kelamayi Municipality Public Security Bureau
- 19. Kizilsu Kyrgyz Autonomous Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 20. Shihezi Municipality Public Security Bureau
- 21. Tacheng Prefecture Public Security Bureau
- 22. Tumushuke Municipal Public Security Bureau
- 23. Turfan Municipality Public Security Bureau
- 24. Urumqi Municipal Public Security Bureau
- 25. Wujiagu Municipality Public Security Bureau
- 26. Xinjiang Police College
- 27. Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) Public Security Bureau
- 28. Yili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture Public Security Bureau; and

# **WHEREAS**

the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2019, which was passed by unanimous consent in the U.S. Senate on September 11, 2019 and passed 407-1 in the U.S. House of Representatives on December 3, 2019, states that the U.S. President "should condemn abuses against Turkic Muslims by Chinese authorities" and call for the following measures:<sup>25</sup>

- To close all "reeducation camps"
- To lift all restrictive measures to "ensure respect for human rights"
- To allow those inside China to reestablish contact with their family, friends, and other associates; and

### **WHEREAS**

China's oppressive actions extend to its suppression of political voices in Taiwan and Hong Kong, where Chinese authorities seek to undermine judicial independence and use the judicial system to silence anyone who contradicts the Chinese government; and

# **WHEREAS**

China's suppresses Taiwan as an autonomous state by intervening in Taiwanese internal and foreign affairs, and by luring allies to recognize China instead of Taiwan as seen in 2016 when Taiwan lost Sao Tome and Principe, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, and El Salvador as diplomatic allies;<sup>26</sup>and

#### **WHEREAS**

China's interference in Taiwan threatens to suppress Taiwanese international influence and existence, and coerce the Taiwanese people to abandon their democracy and freedom;<sup>27</sup> and

### **WHEREAS**

China's extradition bill published in March 2019 seeks to detain and transfer people of Hong Kong wanted in countries and territories with which Hong Kong has "no formal extradition rights," causing fear that this bill would target political activists and journalists; <sup>28</sup> and

### **WHEREAS**

protests in Hong Kong started in June 2019, and while the bill was later withdrawn, demonstrations have continued and escalated as Hong Kongese seek to ensure complete withdrawal of the bill and to prevent a future attempt to reintroduce the bill;<sup>29</sup> and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/178/text?format=txt

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-49317695

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/2019/09/20/world/asia/taiwan-kiribati-china.html

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/10/world/asia/hong-kong-extradition-bill.html?auth=login-google

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-49317695

WHEREAS Chinese President Xi Jiping has made a clear warning against separatism or "dissent" against the Chinese government and authorities, stating that any such attempt to "divide China" will end in "bodies smashed and bones ground to powder;"<sup>30</sup>and

whereas the CSULB ASI Senate seeks to fight for the human rights of and protect those communities being grossly oppressed by regional, national, and global entities on the basis of, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, status of citizenship, sexuality, gender, class, and age; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate strives to be a voice and advocate for communities, and recognizes that criticism of any government or entity does not permit marginalization or discrimination to anyone both on and off campus; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate condemns the Chinese government's continued suppression and threat to freedom and democracy of Taiwan and Hong Kong; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate condemns the cultural genocide, mass-detention, surveillance, and oppression of the Uyghur population and other ethnic minorities committed by the Chinese government and authorities; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate stands against the entities blacklisted by the U.S. Department of Commerce that are complicit in the continued violation of the human rights of the Uyghur population and other ethnic minorities; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate encourages CSULB and any CSULB auxiliaries to divest from those companies and entities found to be involved in the discrimination and oppression of the Uyghur population and other ethnic minorities when considering any socially responsible investment; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate encourages CSULB and its auxiliaries to accomplish actions for divestment from such entities by the end of the 2020-21 academic year; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI urges the 49er Shops to vet companies they order merchandise from to ensure the items purchased are not a product of forced labor from Uyghurs in the internment camps;<sup>31</sup> and be it further

**RESOLVED** that CSULB ASI Senate urges the University to divest from current and any future investments in companies and entities that profit from and/or are complicit in the oppression, discrimination, and violation of human rights of targeted populations in any region of the world; and be it finally

that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Dr. Jane Close Conoley, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Mary Ann Takemoto, Vice President for Administration and Finance Scott Apel, Vice President for University Relations and Development Michele Cesca, Dean of Students Dr. Piya Bose, CSU Chancellor Timothy White, all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Magazine.

<sup>30</sup> https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-50035229

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/01/china-transferred-detained-uighurs-to-factories-used-by-global-brands-report

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

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