

House Resolution 2021

By: Representative Marin of the 96th

A RESOLUTION

1 Calling for the protection of human rights in Vietnam; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, human rights have been established as guiding principles for humanity by the
3 world community under various agreed to declarations which give a basis for the rules of
4 behavior and norms for the world; and

5 WHEREAS, human rights violations at the hand of sovereign governments, be they overt or
6 covert, should not be ignored by the world community, but rather, said nations should be held
7 accountable to ensure the protection of the citizens within their borders; and

8 WHEREAS, in order for a just democratic society to remain protected from covert attacks
9 on human rights, the ability and rights of the people to peacefully assemble, speak freely, and
10 the freedom of the press must be adhered to and protected; and

11 WHEREAS, the sovereignty of a nation or state should be respected, but when said nation
12 or state fails to abide by the international rules, declarations, and treaties to which it is so
13 signed onto and is a party to, it is up to the world to ensure that said violation is not ignored;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the government of Vietnam continues to suppress the freedom of religion,
16 including the dissolution of religious organizations and imprisonment of religious leaders as
17 well as followers, and has confiscated church properties and prohibited religious
18 publications; and

19 WHEREAS, the government of Vietnam has suspended the freedom of expression, including
20 jailing writers and reporters and disrupting the means of communication, to the point of
21 confiscating personal writing equipment from those who refuse government censorship; and

22 WHEREAS, the government of Vietnam has denied due process and the writ of habeas
23 corpus, has conducted secret trials, has denied the right to legal counsel and representation,
24 and has conducted summary execution in which the basic rights of an individual to a fair trial
25 have gone ignored and said individuals have been swiftly executed at the hands of the
26 government; and

27 WHEREAS, the government of Vietnam has placed a ban on the popular elections of its
28 elected officials under a false premise of self-determination.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body condemn the human rights violations taking place at the hand of
31 the Vietnamese government against its citizens which have led to a complete violation of
32 international laws, norms, decrees, declarations, and treaties.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body call on the United States
34 Congress to support any measure aimed at ensuring that the human rights of the people of
35 Vietnam are protected so that executions without trial, suppression of basic human rights,
36 and the forceful silencing of the people do not continue to occur.