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11/12/00

The Secretary
Parliamentary Joint
Statutory Committee
On Corporations and Security

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to you on behalf of Melbourne Practitioners of Falun Dafa.

Firstly, we would be most grateful if you could convey our sincere thanks to Senator Bourne for having spoken out against the Human Rights abuse being perpetrated against our Practitioners in China. Senator Bourne has been fully briefed in the past about the peaceful nature of Falun Dafa but we will happily provide any further information you may require.

We have recently been in communication with Professor David Kinley of the Castan Centre, Monash University. He mentioned that amendments are currently being tabled for the Corporate Code of Conduct Bill.

As you can imagine we are particularly interested in Item 10 – Human Rights Standards – Subsection (1). You may or may not be aware that the Chinese persecution of Falun Dafa is not confined to imprisonment and torture but permeates right through society.

Practitioners who are lucky enough to be released in a fit condition to work are invariably dismissed from their employment and find it virtually impossible to find new jobs. Very often their relatives are also being subjected to similar treatment if they refuse to denounce Falun Dafa.

The aforementioned Item 10 Subsection (1) does not actually list a category, which covers something like Falun Dafa since the latter is not a religion. May we suggest an amendment, which would insert the words “participation in a non-religious spiritual practice such as Falun Dafa” between the words “religion” and “political opinion”.

In view of the situation we’ve described any discreet reverse discrimination vis-a-vis Falun Dafa Practitioners on the part of Australian companies operating in China would be most welcome. Prior to the crack down of July 1999 Falun Dafa practitioners throughout China established a reputation of being exceedingly diligent and honest workers. Thus they would make excellent employees for any Australian company.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like someone to address the committee on this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Pearson-Smith,
Candice Molnar