

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 210**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 1, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Wirths

SYNOPSIS

Respectfully urges Congress to pass “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** respectfully urging Congress to pass
2 “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.”
3
4 **WHEREAS**, Uyghurs are a largely Muslim ethnic group, numbering
5 roughly 11 million, who reside in the Xinjiang region of western
6 China; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Despite the region’s ostensible autonomy, the People’s
8 Republic of China is aggressively pursuing a policy of cultural
9 suppression and forcible assimilation of Uyghurs into the
10 Chinese cultural and economic mainstream; and
11 **WHEREAS**, Human rights groups report that the Chinese
12 government has established a network of internment camps in
13 Xinjiang, and estimate that approximately three million Uyghurs
14 have been interned in these camps, with approximately one
15 million currently interned; and
16 **WHEREAS**, It is reported that in these camps, Uyghurs are
17 indoctrinated to learn Mandarin Chinese, swear their loyalty to
18 President Xi Jinping, and renounce their Islamic faith; and
19 **WHEREAS**, Camps are reported to function as prisons, with barbed-
20 wire fences and security cameras, and guards armed with spiked
21 clubs, tear gas, and stun guns to prevent detainees from escaping,
22 and where detainees are punished for “behavioral violations” and
23 tortured; and
24 **WHEREAS**, It is also reported that some Uyghurs who have been
25 detained are also forced to labor in Chinese factories, with many
26 transported directly from the camps to factories elsewhere in
27 China, where they live under similarly oppressive conditions;
28 and
29 **WHEREAS**, A Congressional-Executive Commission on China
30 report from 2020 found that goods such as textiles, cotton,
31 electronics, food products, shoes, tea, and handicrafts produced
32 in the Xinjiang region were likely produced at least partially
33 through the use of forced labor; and
34 **WHEREAS**, The report identified Nike and Coca-Cola as companies
35 suspected of ties to forced labor in Xinjiang, as well as Adidas,
36 Calvin Klein, Campbell Soup Company, Costco, Espirit, H&M,
37 Kraft Heinz Company, Patagonia, Tommy Hilfiger and other
38 companies; and
39 **WHEREAS**, Boycotts are historically an effective exercise of
40 consumer power, and a considerable portion of the Chinese
41 economy is dependent on its exports to the United States; and
42 **WHEREAS**, The application of a boycott by the United States of
43 products made through forced labor will apply pressure on the
44 Chinese government to end the practice; and
45 **WHEREAS**, Congress has introduced a bill to accomplish this: the
46 Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, which would bar the
47 import of goods made “in whole or in part” in Xinjiang unless a

1 company proves to customs officials that their products were not
 2 made with forced labor; and
 3 **WHEREAS**, The bill would also require a company exporting goods
 4 to the United States to scrutinize their supply chains, or abandon
 5 Chinese suppliers altogether; and
 6 **WHEREAS**, The bill also targets so-called poverty alleviation and
 7 pairing programs that ship Muslims from impoverished areas to
 8 work in factories elsewhere, which human rights groups say are
 9 often coercive; and
 10 **WHEREAS**, Under the bill, a company would be required to disclose
 11 information on their ties to Xinjiang to the Securities and
 12 Exchange Commission; and
 13 **WHEREAS**, The bill passed the United States House Of
 14 Representatives by a vote of 406 to 3 in the 116th Congress, and
 15 has been reintroduced in the current session; now, therefore,

16
 17 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
 18 Jersey (the Senate concurring):

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 20 1. The Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to
 21 enact the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.
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 23 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
 24 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
 25 Secretary of the Senate to the presiding officers of the Congress of
 26 the United States and each member of the United States Congress
 27 elected from the State of New Jersey.
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30 STATEMENT

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 32 This concurrent resolution urges Congress to pass the Uyghur
 33 Forced Labor Prevention Act. This bill would bar the import of
 34 goods made “in whole or in part” in Xinjiang, the region where the
 35 Chinese government is aggressively pursuing a policy of cultural
 36 suppression and forcible assimilation of Uyghurs, unless a company
 37 proves to customs officials that their products were not made with
 38 forced labor.
 39 The bill would also require companies exporting goods to the
 40 United States to scrutinize their supply chains, or abandon Chinese
 41 suppliers altogether. The bill also targets so-called poverty
 42 alleviation and pairing programs that ship Muslims from
 43 impoverished areas to work in factories elsewhere, which human
 44 rights groups say are often coercive. Under the bill, a company
 45 would be required to disclose information on their ties to Xinjiang
 46 to the Securities and Exchange Commission.