



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1403**

November 17, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden, Secretary Blinken and Ambassador Kerry,

I am writing to you out of the concern over the disappearance of Chinese tennis player Peng Shuai, who accused a former senior CCP official for sexual assault on Chinese social media Weibo (Chinese equivalent of Twitter) two weeks ago.

One of China's biggest sporting stars, Peng Shuai divulged on Weibo in a post on November 2<sup>nd</sup> that China's former vice-premier Zhang Gaoli coerced her into sex and had intermittent affair with her for ten years. Peng's Weibo post was taken down some twenty minutes after it was published. As Peng's post became viral, the Chinese government blocked and censored various key words, even the word "tennis." In the meantime, Peng has completely disappeared from public view and become unreachable.

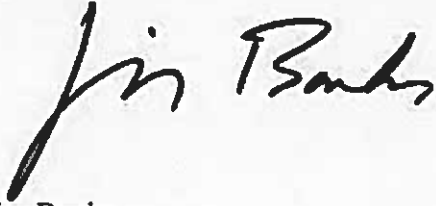
Peng's allegation and disappearance have raised widespread outrage and concern in China and around the world. No one should have to fear for their life for using their voice. Peng's safety must not be compromised because of her brave act of calling out on a powerful individual.

Since your administration has been engaging in intense high-level dialogues with Chinese officials, I would like to urge you to raise to your Chinese counterparts in such interactions the issue of Peng Shuai's safety and whereabouts and demand Chinese authorities to lift censorship and re-post Peng Shuai's social media message that has been taken down.

I would like to further ask you to suspend any high-level dialogues with China until China respond satisfactorily to our inquiries about Peng Shuai's safety. I also urge you to warn the Chinese authorities that China's silencing and abusing Peng Shuai, if not handled properly, will have a

negative impact on China hosting the Winter Olympics of 2022, and will only exacerbate the movement to boycott the games. I thank you very much for your attention to this matter and I am looking forward to hearing your response soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Banks". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jim Banks

CC: Secretary Anthony Blinken, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry