MI:142425 MO: O/06/00828

6 December 2006

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Queensland Parliamentary Service Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I am writing with reference to a previous response submitted by myself in relation to petition number 733-06 in support of the Coalition to Investigate the Persecution of Falun Gong (CIPFG) to investigate forced organ harvesting allegations and the illegal detention of Falun Gong practitioners in detention centres, labour camps, prisons and hospitals in China.

I wish to clarify the information provided in this letter regarding the practices of the Princess Alexandra and The Prince Charles Hospitals in relation to links between Queensland and Chinese transplant surgeons.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital and The Prince Charles Hospital are the two major transplanting centres in the state. The philosophy and practices of the medical community in these institutions do not support practices which may restrict the liberty of an individual to freely give consent to donation.

This position was developed prior to the allegations made by the Falun Gong and so was not influenced by this particular group. It is in line with the ethical and moral standards of the Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand, World Health Organisations and International Transplant Societies.

Based on these ethical principles, the medical transplantation fraternity had established a position of not training Chinese doctors in transplantation techniques or transplant research related areas since the practice of retrieving organs from executed prisoners became known to them several years ago.

Should you have any queries regarding my advice to you, Ms Karen Ryan, A/Manager, Policy and Legislation Branch, will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone 323 40852.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

LAID UPON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENT



Hon Stephen Robertson MP Member for Stretton



Minister for Health

MI141725 MO: 0/06/00828

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Queensland Parliamentary Service Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

TARLET UEENSI

n 1 DEC 2006

5/12/00

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter dated 1 November 2006, regarding petition number 733-06 in support of the Coalition to investigate the persecution of Falun Gong to investigate forced organ harvesting allegations and the illegal detention of Falun Gong practitioners in detention centres, labour camps, prisons and hospitals in China.

I am aware of the allegations of organ harvesting by the Chinese Government from Falun Gong practitioners, and thank the petitioners for alerting me to their concerns. There is one issue in the petition which I can respond to – that of participation by Queensland medical organisations in Government of China sponsored organ transplant research.

Queensland's two major transplant hospitals, The Prince Charles Hospital and the Princess Alexandra Hospital, are both aware of the allegations made about Chinese organ transplantation practices. I am pleased to inform you that The Prince Charles Hospital have a policy of not training any Chinese surgeon in any transplant surgical technique. Similarly, the Princess Alexandra Hospital does not undertake any sponsored organ transplant research or training with China.

Should you have any queries regarding my advice to you, Ms Karen Ryan, Acting Manager, Policy and Legislation Branch, will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone 3234 0852.

Yours sincerely

STEPHEN ROBERTSON MP

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