

Yuan, whose repeated requests for medical parole for Chen were ignored by prison authorities, said she is still very concerned about her husband's health.

"I am most worried about the continuing diarrhea and the persistent cough," Yuan said. "For the first few days after his release he couldn't speak at all."

She said Chen had lost a lot of weight in jail. "He has a lot of grey hair and he has a sort of haunted look," she said.

Chen suffered beatings while in Shandong's Linyi municipal prison in June 2007 for "being disobedient" after launching an appeal against his conviction to a higher court.

"GIVE HIS FREEDOM BACK"

Chen, a self-taught lawyer, was detained repeatedly, beaten, and kept under surveillance after he helped local people take legal action against the Linyi municipal government in cases of alleged forced abortion.

Beijing-based civil rights lawyer Li Subin said Chen should have his freedom back now that his jail term has ended.

"Instead, the state-run prison has followed him back home, where he is still imprisoned under house arrest," Li said. "We have been working towards democracy and the rule of law for 30 years in this country, and we can still see cruelty like this today."

"But if everyone takes this issue seriously, I don't see how the gangster behavior of the local government and the banditry of the local judiciary can carry on for too long."

Meanwhile, Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), a senior member of the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, in a statement called on the Chinese government to release Chen from house arrest.

"The prison release of Chen Guangcheng, one of China's most heroic human rights defenders, is good news but only a step in the right direction," said Smith.

"The fact that Chen remains under house arrest, imprisoned in his own home, and is reportedly in need of urgent medical attention, must not be ignored. I appeal to the Chinese government to let Chen move about freely and ensure that he has access to the care he needs."

Chen Guangcheng's work exposed a culture of secrecy and impunity among Chinese officials about the enforcement of China's population control policy.

Local officials have admitted to taking draconian measures when they have difficulty meeting population targets imposed by Beijing.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING OUR VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY. For those of you who may be watching on your C-SPAN at home, you may wonder how it is that everything just has to be broken down Republican versus Democrat, right versus left. I think there is one special interest group in our country that

there shouldn't be any disagreement about, it's a good special interest. And that's our Nation's veterans.

We are consumed right now with a lot of problems our country has. But perhaps the families that's facing the greatest challenges right now are the families that have already borne the biggest sacrifice so that we could have elections today in my State and other States across the country and we could have an election this November.

We are very good in this country at getting down on ourselves, berating our political system, saying it's no good. After you hear a colleague of mine like that talk about China, I think people get the picture of the fact we've got it pretty good in this country. For all intents and purposes it's not perfect, but as Winston Churchill said, "Democracy's the worst form of government except for all the others." Most places of the world people don't have rights of any kind even to lobby, a lobbyist, or a special interest. They just don't have rights.

What makes our country so great and what we stand for as a people so great is that we can speak our mind. We can come to the floor and talk, just as my colleague did, about the one child per family policy in China. We can talk about the economy, as my other colleagues did before that.

But let's just stop for a second and understand one thing. We would not have an economy if terrorists were in our malls today blowing up backpacks. Because of our veterans, our soldiers who have borne the battle, those terrorists, in large part due to their work, have been kept over there as opposed to coming here. Yes, that's cost us a lot of money as a country to fight those wars.

But the cost, the indelible costs of this war is on those veterans who have suffered what many people would like to think, because there are no cures, no interventions, no treatments, permanent chronic damage as a result of the physical torment their bodies, their brains took serving our country.

I am here to say good news. Good news is that if this country comes to our veterans' side and decides not just to talk a good game about supporting our veterans, but actually that we're going to do whatever it takes to save those veterans, because we constantly say, oh, the war is over, oh, the combat operations are over.

□ 1920

We are bringing them home safely. Try telling that to a veteran with traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress. The combat operations as we know them may have been concluded officially, but their war is just beginning, their war against the disabling symptoms of their service, of the casualties of their experience, fighting for us, saving our country, saving this world from more 9/11s.

So what's our attitude going to be? Are we going to come to their rescue, or are we just going to talk a good game? Within the next couple of years we can come in with new cell recuperation, through stem cell research, restore and repair damaged brains, with the knowledge that we have of genetics. We can help avert all kinds of the other challenges they are going to face higher risks for because of their exposure to all of these conflicts on our behalf. They are going to be high risk.

We can turn all those trip wires off with the research we can do now, not in 2 years from now, not in 4 years from now, not in any period of time. Because if you are one of those veterans and you have come home and you are suffering, you are saying to yourself, how long is it going to take before I get relief, before someone comes in and saves me as a prisoner of my war injury.

We shouldn't make them wait any longer than is necessary to get to the cures and the answers that are going to set them free.

FINDINGS IDENTIFYING CHANGES IN LAW TO HELP ACHIEVE DEFICIT REDUCTION SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO H. RES. 1463

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as you know, House Rule X entrusts the Committee on House Administration with responsibility for, among other matters, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, United States Capitol Police, Printing and correction of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Federal elections and other services to the House.

The Committee strenuously exercises its oversight authority by routinely meeting with the Legislative Branch agencies, the Officers and Inspector General of the House, and the Smithsonian Institution. Through this rigorous oversight the Committee has identified and implemented policies to reduce waste, eliminate fraud, and mitigate inefficiencies.

Among the Committee's recent work:

Passed H.R. 4825, to make permanent the law dedicating the unspent balances of Members Representational Allowances to deficit and debt reduction (measure is now pending in the Senate);

Passed H.R. 3690, 110th Cong. (became Pub. L. 110-178), merging the United States Capitol Police and the Library of Congress Police; during 111th Congress, oversaw merger process resulting in elimination of needless duplication of responsibilities, achievement of administrative savings and enhanced security for the Capitol campus;

Passed H.R. 1299, 111th Cong. (became Pub. L. 111-145), clarifying sundry laws related to the administration of the United States Capitol Police and streamlining USCP operations;