

HRES 837

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Beijing should immediately guarantee the safety and freedom of tennis star Peng Shuai.

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: Dec 3, 2021

Current Status: The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.

Latest Action: The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection. (Dec 8, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/837>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Wexton, Jennifer [D-VA-10]

Party: Democratic • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Waltz, Michael [R-FL-6]	R · FL		Dec 3, 2021
Rep. Gimenez, Carlos A. [R-FL-26]	R · FL		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]	R · SC		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]	D · CA		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7]	R · MI		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Dec 8, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 3, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 SRES 503	Related bill	Apr 7, 2022: Resolution agreed to in Senate with an amendment and an amended preamble by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S2080-2081; text: CR S2080-2081)

This resolution expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the case of Peng Shuai is directly related to broader international concerns around the freedom of speech and safety of athletes participating in the 2022 Olympics in Beijing.

The resolution also expresses that the role of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in legitimizing China's claims about Peng's safety raises questions about the IOC's ability and willingness to protect the rights of athletes participating in the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic games in Beijing.

Finally, the resolution expresses that China should (1) provide independent and verifiable proof of Peng's whereabouts and that she is safe, (2) allow Peng to engage directly with the Women's Tennis Association and the United Nations to independently verify her safety and explain her absence from public life since making her allegation, (3) open an independent and transparent investigation into Peng's allegations against former senior Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli, (4) publicly commit to holding sexual violence abusers accountable, (5) cease all censorship of reporting and discussions of Peng's case, and (6) allow Peng to leave China if she so desires and not retaliate against her family members who remain there.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 8, 2021:** Mr. Meeks moved to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.
- **Dec 8, 2021:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7504-7507)
- **Dec 8, 2021:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H. Res. 837.
- **Dec 8, 2021:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Dec 8, 2021:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7534)
- **Dec 8, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 428 - 0 (Roll no. 413).(text: CR H7505)
- **Dec 8, 2021:** On motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 428 - 0 (Roll no. 413). (text: CR H7505)
- **Dec 8, 2021:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 8, 2021:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 3, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 3, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.