

visits, the use of native Korean-speaking employees, and travel access throughout North Korea.

(15) The risk of starvation, the threat of persecution, and the lack of freedom and opportunity in North Korea have caused large numbers, perhaps even hundreds of thousands, of North Koreans to flee their homeland, primarily into China.

(16) North Korean women and girls, particularly those who have fled into China, are at risk of being kidnapped, trafficked, and sexually exploited inside China, where many are sold as brides or concubines, or forced to work as prostitutes.

(17) The Governments of China and North Korea have been conducting aggressive campaigns to locate North Koreans who are in China without permission and to forcibly return them to North Korea, where they routinely face torture and imprisonment, and sometimes execution.

(18) Despite China's obligations as a party to the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, China routinely classifies North Koreans seeking asylum in China as mere "economic migrants" and returns them to North Korea without regard to the serious threat of persecution they face upon their return.

(19) The Government of China does not provide North Koreans whose asylum requests are rejected a right to have the rejection reviewed prior to deportation despite its obligations under the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees.

(20) North Koreans who seek asylum while in China are routinely imprisoned and tortured, and in some cases killed, after they are returned to North Korea.

(21) The Government of China has detained, convicted, and imprisoned foreign aid workers attempting to assist North Korean refugees in proceedings that did not comply with Chinese law or international standards.

(22) In January 2000, North Korean agents inside China allegedly abducted the Reverend Kim Dong-shik, a United States permanent resident and advocate for North Korean refugees, whose condition and whereabouts remain unknown.

(23) Between 1994 and 2003, South Korea has admitted approximately 3,800 North Korean refugees for domestic resettlement, a number that is small in comparison with the total number of North Korean escapees but far greater than the number legally admitted in any other country.

(24) Although the principal responsibility for North Korean refugee resettlement naturally falls to the Government of South Korea, the United States should play a leadership role in focusing international attention on the plight of these refugees, and formulating international solutions to that profound humanitarian dilemma.

(25) In addition to infringing the rights of its own citizens, the Government of North Korea has been responsible in years past for the ab-

duction of numerous citizens of South Korea and Japan, whose condition and whereabouts remain unknown.

(Pub. L. 108-333, § 3, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1287.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 108-333, § 1, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1287, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004'."

§ 7802. Purposes

The purposes of this chapter are—

(1) to promote respect for and protection of fundamental human rights in North Korea;

(2) to promote a more durable humanitarian solution to the plight of North Korean refugees;

(3) to promote increased monitoring, access, and transparency in the provision of humanitarian assistance inside North Korea;

(4) to promote the free flow of information into and out of North Korea; and

(5) to promote progress toward the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula under a democratic system of government.

(Pub. L. 108-333, § 4, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1290.)

§ 7803. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) Appropriate congressional committees

The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

(2) China

The term "China" means the People's Republic of China.

(3) Humanitarian assistance

The term "humanitarian assistance" means assistance to meet humanitarian needs, including needs for food, medicine, medical supplies, clothing, and shelter.

(4) North Korea

The term "North Korea" means the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

(5) North Koreans

The term "North Koreans" means persons who are citizens or nationals of North Korea.

(6) South Korea

The term "South Korea" means the Republic of Korea.

(Pub. L. 108-333, § 5, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1290.)

SUBCHAPTER I—PROMOTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF NORTH KOREANS

§ 7811. Sense of Congress regarding negotiations with North Korea

It is the sense of Congress that the human rights of North Koreans should remain a key element in future negotiations between the United States, North Korea, and other concerned parties in Northeast Asia.