

February tightened existing restriction and new draft regulations are being circulated to clamp down on religious expression online. Churches, mosques, and temples have been demolished, crosses destroyed, children have been prohibited from attending services, and surveillance cameras are being installed in churches.

Xi Jinping talks about realizing the “China Dream”—but when Bibles are burned, when a simple prayer over a meal in public may be an illegal religious gathering, and when over a million Uyghur and Kazakh Muslims are interned in “reeducation camps” and forced to renounce their faith—that dream is a nightmare.

Much in the news lately has been the Chinese government’s targeting of Christians. The “sinacization campaign” has affected both state-controlled and unregistered churches—Protestant and Catholic. Clergy remain in prison and the human rights lawyers who defend religious believers have been jailed, disappeared, or tortured into silence. Xi Jinping views the fast-growing Christian churches, particularly the Protestant “house church” movement that does not belong to the state-sanctioned Protestant entities, as a threat to the dominance of the Chinese Communist Party. One of our witnesses yesterday, my good friend the Rev. Dr. Bob Fu, has detailed on countless occasions the Communist Party’s vicious war on independent house churches.

Underground Catholics—meaning those who do not belong to the state-sanctioned Patriotic Association—have faced tremendous persecution for decades, including Bishop Su Zhimin who I met with in 1994.

Bishop Su’s body bore witness to the brutality of China’s Communist Party. He was beaten, starved, and tortured for his faith and spent some 40 years in prison. Yet, he prayed not just for the persecuted church, but for the conversion of those who hate, torture and kill. Unfortunately, only a couple of years later Bishop Su was arrested again and disappeared. He has not been heard from since.

Today, efforts to forcibly close underground parishes expanded this year. China’s Ethnic and Religion Bureau told the state propaganda arm Global Times in April that “activities in illegally-built parishes will be prohibited” and underground Catholic churches were being shuttered this very summer.

Recent reports indicate that a deal has been struck by the Holy See and the Chinese government whereby the Pope will have veto power over Chinese government-approved candidates to be ordained as bishops. In exchange, seven previously excommunicated bishops, ordained without papal mandate and appointed by the Chinese government, will be welcomed back into full communion with Rome. Already, the Vatican has asked two validly ordained bishops to step aside to make way for two formerly excommunicated bishops. Cardinal Joseph Zen, bishop emeritus of Hong Kong, has questioned whether Vatican officials making these decisions “know what true suffering is.”

The reports are that this deal is provisional and full details are yet unknown. The devil will be in the details—including the fate of underground churches and relations with Taiwan. But with all the efforts underway to forcibly sinacize religion, it certainly seems an odd time to strike a deal with Xi Jinping’s China. I hope and pray this agreement will bring true religious freedom for Catholics in China—who

have suffered so much to maintain their faith. We will continue to monitor the situation closely to see if force is used by the Chinese government to close all “underground” or unregistered Catholic churches as a result of this deal.

We heard from Dr. Tom Farr on what the implications of this deal would be and his recommendations for U.S. religious freedom diplomacy.

U.S.-China tensions are high at the moment on many fronts and the Chinese government presumably is searching for ways to reduce—not escalate—them. Taking a hammer and sickle to the cross or jailing a million Uyghur Muslims will only ensure a tougher China policy, one with widespread, bipartisan and even global support.

HONORING REP. H.M. “MICKEY”
MICHAX

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the leadership and service of Representative Henry McKinley “Mickey” Michaux, who is retiring from the North Carolina General Assembly after nearly five decades of distinguished and impactful public service.

For many residents of Durham and the State of North Carolina, Mickey Michaux’s life of service has been synonymous with our growth and progress as a region as well as the challenges we have faced as a state and nation. A native of Durham, Michaux spent his childhood in segregated schools and public establishments, attending the prestigious boarding school, Palmer Memorial Institute, and graduating from North Carolina Central University (NCCU) in 1952. He went on to serve his country in the United States Medical Corps and Army Reserves from 1952 until 1960.

As a young business and civic leader, Michaux was at the forefront of the civil rights movement as it swept through the South. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s first visit to Durham in 1956 came at Michaux’s invitation, building on a friendship that would extend until King’s untimely death. His early involvement in local civil rights struggles led him to pursue a career in law; he earned his Juris Doctor from N.C. Central in 1964 and was appointed as the Chief Assistant District Attorney for Durham County in 1969.

In 1972, Michaux was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives, becoming just the third African American to hold a seat in the 20th century. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to serve as the first African American U.S. Attorney in the Middle District of North Carolina: after a distinguished term of service, he returned to the North Carolina House representing Durham’s 31st District. He has served continuously since then, making him the longest-serving member of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Throughout his more than four decades in the legislature, Michaux has been a visionary and effective advocate for equal rights, social justice, and shared prosperity. Nearly every progressive accomplishment of the last few

decades—investments in education and worker training, support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, expansions of voting rights and ballot access reforms—have benefited from his guidance and persistence. He served as the Senior Chair of the Appropriations Committee, overseeing numerous vital investments to create opportunities for North Carolina families. He has been a tireless ambassador for his community of Durham, for example by shepherding legislation unifying the city and county school districts through the state House. And he has led efforts to ensure that North Carolina honors its history as an epicenter of the civil rights movement, for example by establishing the Hawkins Brown Museum at Historic Palmer Memorial Institute.

Mickey Michaux has not hesitated to take on difficult causes. My wife Lisa greatly admired his introduction in the early 1990s of legislation designed to keep guns out of the wrong hands; her hope in founding North Carolinians Against Gun Violence was to make his cause a less lonely one.

Lisa and I have known Mickey for the 45 years we have been back in North Carolina. I worked with him as state Democratic chairman and then benefitted from his counsel and encouragement when I decided to seek office myself. He was especially welcoming and helpful when my district was redrawn to include Durham in 1997. I had a lot to learn, and I will always be grateful for Mickey’s generosity in easing my way.

Mickey has received countless awards and recognitions for his service, including the Order of the Long Leaf Pine earlier this year. He has been a mainstay of numerous bar and real estate associations, the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People, and St. Joseph’s AME Church. He is a member of the Black College Alumni Hall of Fame, served as an NCCU Trustee, and was National President of the N.C. Central Alumni Association for three terms. The H. M. Michaux, Jr. School of Education Building at NCCU was dedicated in his honor in 2007.

On behalf of North Carolina’s Congressional delegation and my constituents in the Fourth District, I join Mickey’s many friends, colleagues, and constituents in thanking him for his commitment and service to the city of Durham and the State of North Carolina. He leaves his community stronger than he found it, better equipped to nurture future generations of conscientious and effective leaders. All North Carolinians are in his debt. We wish him, his wife June, and their family well as he begins the next chapter in his life.

FRANK REWOLD AND SON, INC.

HON. MIKE BISHOP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2018

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Frank Rewold and Son, as this year marks the business’ 100th anniversary in my hometown of Rochester, Michigan.

In 1918, the widow of John Frances Dodge, of Dodge Motor Car Company, a co-founder of Oakland University, hired an established carpenter by the name of Frank Rewold. This marked the beginning of decades of building,