

## 2021 International Campaign for Tibet Lobby Day Summary

This year we will focus on a priority “ask” supported by four main themes. The main ask is to join a letter from Representatives McGovern and Smith to the Biden administration urging action on these and other important Tibet policies. A copy of the letter is in your materials packet, as well as fact sheets for each issue theme. The four issue themes are: 1) implementing key Tibet-related laws. 2) holding China accountable 3) inclusion of Tibet policy in large “China-Bills” 4) environmental justice.

### Implement Key Tibet Laws

- The Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act (RATA) requires the State Department to ban Chinese officials responsible for restricting American access to Tibet. Today, China continues to bar officials, journalists, even Tibetan Americans entry to Tibet. Chinese officials and citizens face no such restrictions accessing the U.S. where they can travel unimpeded. RATA is designed to challenge this disparity.
- The Tibet Policy and Support Act (TPSA) strengthens American support for Tibetan religious freedom. It rejects the CCP’s patently illegitimate plan to appoint its own false “Dalai Lama”, a direct strike against religious freedom. If Chinese officials attempt to name a future Dalai Lama, they will face sanctions that could include freezing assets and denying U.S. entry.

### Keep Supporting Tibet in “China Bills”

- Efforts continue in Congress to legislate a comprehensive approach to China foreign policy. The Senate has already passed its version, which includes sections supporting Tibet. It is important that any final legislation include similar support for Tibetan culture, religious expression, and freedom from oppression.

### Hold China Accountable

- Already there is growing controversy regarding China hosting the 2022 Olympics despite its blatant human rights violations, including in Tibet. Speaker Nancy Pelosi, other legislators, and human rights organizations are demanding accountability through a potential diplomatic boycott. ICT’s position is that the onus falls on the International Olympics Committee to confront these human rights violations or rescind China’s prestigious hosting of the Olympics.

### Call for environmental Justice

- Tibet’s environment is vital to both global sustainability and political stability. Yet the PRC is simultaneously exploiting the Tibetan Plateau with reckless abandon and extracting resources as it dismantles Tibetans’ culture of stewardship, which reflects both the pragmatic need for sustainability and a deep Buddhist belief in respect for the natural world.