



## Kriss Worthington

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### CONSENT CALENDAR

December 14, 2004

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: APPROVE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF TIBETAN TRULKU TENZIN DELEK RINPOCHE'S CASE AND STOPPING OF HIS PLANNED EXECUTION

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council approves resolution supporting the immediate review of Tibetan Trulku Tenzin Delek Rinpoche's case and stopping of his planned execution.

#### BACKGROUND:

Tenzin Delek Rinpoche, a religious leader from Tibet, worked within Chinese law for more than ten years to establish social, educational, religious and medical institutions in his area of Lithang, eastern Tibet. Because of his peaceful efforts to empower Tibetans by maintaining their own identity through religion and culture, Chinese authorities viewed him as a threat to their control of the region.

In April of 2002 Tenzin Delek was arrested for alleged involvement in a series of unsolved bombings in eastern Tibet. On December 2, 2002 the Kardze Intermediate People's Court in the Darkze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Sichuan Province sentenced Tenzin Delek Rinpoche to death and suspended for two years. Lobsang Dhondup, Tenzin Delek's attendant who also claimed innocence, was executed January 26, 2003 for his alleged political offenses. Both Tenzin Delek and Lobsang Dhondup were denied access to lawyers and received an unfair trial.

The case of Tenzin Delek Rnpoche is extremely urgent since his suspended death sentence expired December 2, 2004.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE.

#### CONTACT PERSON:

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