



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

City of Northampton
Office of the Mayor
210 Main Street Room 12
Northampton, MA 01060-3199
(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275
mayor@northamptonma.gov

October 19, 2016
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement by Mayor David J. Narkewicz in Support of Global Day of Action for Larung Gar

Today I am proud to add my name to a letter urging the United Front Work Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to immediately halt the demolitions and removals scheduled to take place at Larung Gar Buddhist Academy in Sertar County, Sichuan Province. The City of Northampton has stood in solidarity with our local Tibetan community for years and has urged for pressure to be placed on the government of People's Republic of China to restore freedom and resolve the issue of Tibet through dialogue for the mutual benefit of the Tibetan and Chinese people. The demolitions and forced removals in Larung Gar demonstrate the extremes China will go to to control religion. Stand with me in supporting Larung Gar.

Five College Students for a Free Tibet, Amnesty Chapter 128, and the local Tibetan community have organized a protest demonstration and march that will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. at City Hall today.