

## Petition to the House of Commons

### Whereas:

- Free and fair trials, judicial independence, and the rule of law are all cornerstones to Canada’s democracy;
- Since June 2019, protests for democracy, freedom, universal suffrage, and regional autonomy have been occurring in Hong Kong;
- On many occasions, peaceful protestors of Hong Kong are charged and convicted of penal offences through a judiciary that is increasingly politicised and under pressure from Beijing and its mouthpieces in the media;
- The Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (S.C. 2001, c.27), Section 36 renders foreign nationals who have committed or been convicted of a foreign offence outside Canada inadmissible on grounds of criminality and serious criminality; and
- Hong Kong people who have been arbitrarily charged and convicted with pro-democracy movement related penal offences for political purposes such as “illegal assembly” are at risk of being deemed inadmissible to enter Canada.

### We, the undersigned, citizens and permanent residents of Canada, call upon the Government of Canada to:

1. Recognize the politicization of the judiciary in Hong Kong and its impact on the legitimacy and validity of criminal convictions;
2. The Minister of Immigration to make a statement in the House of Commons on protest related criminal records and affirm its commitment to render all National Security Law charges and convictions irrelevant and invalid in relation to Section 36(1)(c);
3. To review the requirement for Hong Kong people to request a criminal background check from the Hong Kong Police as part of their application process for the Canadian Government’s work visa scheme, which places vulnerable individuals in harm’s way by alerting the authorities of their intention to leave the territory;
4. Create a section in the immigration form by which Hong Kong people with pro-democracy movement related convictions may provide an explanation for such convictions, on the basis of which Government officials can grant exemptions to Hong Kong people who are deemed inadmissible under A36(1)(b), (2)(b), and (2)(c) upon examination of the circumstances and determination that the applicant’s criminal record is political in nature; and
5. Work with the United Kingdom, United States, France, Australia, New Zealand, and other democracies to waive criminal inadmissibility of Hong Kong people convicted for political purposes, who otherwise do not have a criminal record.

Name (please print)	Address (street, province, postal code)	Signature	Phone #	Email

Please mail (postage & envelope not required) to the office of Garnett Genuis, MP

Please fold and tape to seal

No  
Postage  
Necessary

**MP Garnett Genuis**  
**House of Commons**  
**Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**  
**K1A 0A6**

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