

RHONDDA

To: rlam@legco.gov.hk
cc:
Subject: article 23 legislation

2002/12/24 09:42 AM

I am a permanent Hong Kong resident who has lived here since 1991. I feel very lucky to have been able to work in Hong Kong, to contribute to its economic success in some way, and to have benefitted by being able to live in a free and open society.

But living here for more than ten years, I have seen a lot of changes. I have watched pollution increase, and learned that while the PRC has very strict air pollution laws, the corruption there is what we suffer from here.

I have seen factories in Shenzhen that manage not to comply with the very strict PRC Labor Law, because of the corruption there.

I know the PRC labor law pretty well, and it is rather vague on a number of points.

It is this vagueness that troubles me with regard to the impending Article 23 legislation.

The US Constitution is vague, too, but it works properly because the judiciary system in the US has grown up as its interpreter, and because the judiciary is not under control of any other part of the US government (although at times different presidents have wished they had more control!).

Only yesterday I signed a petition against the proposed legislation, and was given a handful of brochures that set out, clearly and simply, the scope of the proposals.

It is frightening.

This is not a matter of defense of the government, or of patriotism. It has the potential to change the very fabric of Hong Kong society.

Please do not pass this legislation as it stands now. It is dangerous.

Please, listen to the substantial number of Hong Kong people, of all walks of life, who cherish freedom and also love China.

Sincerely,
Rhondda May
Midlevels
Hong Kong