

"Odilon Couzin"

To: <rlam@legco.gov.hk>
cc:
Subject: you're making a big mistake

2002/12/23 09:55 PM

Dear Hong Kong government,

We who live inside mainland China have for years recognized the admirable system of legislatively protected freedoms in Hong Kong. Here in China, people do not enjoy basic democracy or human rights. By enacting Article 23 as you are doing, without proper consultation or transparency, you are sacrificing the very legal foundations that made Hong Kong special. You are stripping Hong Kong citizens of their civil rights, and history will judge this shortsighted choice, and those making it, in a harsh and unrelenting light.

With all due respect, I am writing to remind you that the world is watching Hong Kong very carefully, to see if its unelected government has the strength to resist the path of ethical bankruptcy and legal regression that has plagued mainland China for decades. Do not make the same mistake that your Northern cousins did.

Sincerely,

Odilon Couzin
Beijing