

## Submission to Bills Committee on Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (Co-location) Bill

## **Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong**

The Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong (BPF) supports the co-location arrangements for the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL). This would enable those departing from Hong Kong to clear immigration before departure hence enabling them to arrive at their Mainland destination without further bureaucracy. This is a sensible idea modeled perhaps on what is done in Canada. Canada has US immigration officers stationed at its major airports (Toronto, Vancouver etc.) processing passengers departing to US destinations only. Thanks to this those departing from Canada can arrive in dozens of US cities without further formalities.

This arrangement in Canada works well and has caused no anguish in Canada. If it is not seen as a problems in Canada and the US (clearly two separate countries), it clearly should not be a problem for a similar arrangement in Hong Kong under "One Country, Two Systems". It is simply a matter of efficiency and convenience for travelers.

In addition, it is our view that the co-location arrangement does not breach either the spirit or the letter of the Basic Law which must be interpreted to recognise a situation which could not have been anticipated at the time of original drafting.

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