



State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCORD

34 Swett Avenue
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Ambassador Qin Gang
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
3505 International Place, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20008

Aug. 9, 2021

Dear Ambassador Quin Gang ,

I send you greetings from the people of the Granite State, New Hampshire, and wish you and your country good health and prosperity. In your role as the ambassador for the People's Republic of China I am sure you are aware of the criticism addressed to the PRC government regarding its role in protecting the civil and human rights of the residents of China including the residents of Hong Kong. This criticism is not coming only from sources in the USA but also from many other countries worldwide. Despite your government's agreement with the government of the United Kingdom, the guaranteed rights of Hong Kong residents have been repeatedly violated, and the special status that your government promised Hong Kong, including self-governance, is not being honored.

China can rightfully be proud of its long history, including the courageous efforts of the Chinese people during World War II. The Chinese people, have shown themselves to be highly accomplished and talented (scientists, doctors and athletes). However, at the same time China as a nation cannot continue to be isolated from worldwide changes, that have expanded both human rights and opportunities in society for people, including minorities, who have been neglected in the past.

As the sponsor of resolution HCR 5 concerning these issues, I want to inform you that the New Hampshire House of Representatives and the New Hampshire Senate both overwhelmingly passed HCR 5, expressing its concerns. Such resolutions in the New Hampshire legislature are very rare and usually do not have the needed 2/3 vote to even be considered. That this resolution received such strong support underscores the fact that, at least in New Hampshire, the concerns mentioned in the resolution are widely shared. I am including a copy of the resolution for your consideration. However, please allow me to highlight some of the issues addressed in it. According to numerous media reports, the Chinese government has encouraged efforts to shut down opposition media outlets, arrested and transferred Hong Kong citizens to the PRC in violation of their free speech rights. In addition, PRC officials and surrogates have harassed NGOs and journalists seen as not supportive of the government.

As a signatory to the 1948 United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as numerous international laws, I am requesting that you forward resolution HCR 5 to your government, and would respectfully ask you for a response from that government confirming that they will indeed comply with international laws regarding human rights, and the rights of residents of Hong Kong promised under the agreement with the United Kingdom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Somssich".

Rep. Peter Somssich, Ranking Democratic Member
House Science Technology & Energy Committee, Rockingham, District 27 /Portsmouth
tel. 603-436-5382, staterep27nh@gmail.com

CC: Senator Shaheen, Senator Hassan, Congresswoman Kuster, Congressman Pappas