

E497

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From:

Date: 2004/04/08 Thu PM 11:22:24 CST

To: views@cab-review.gov.hk

Subject: views on political reform in hong kong.

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I'd like to express my view that introducing full democratic universal suffrage is an urgent, necessity for Hong Kong.

As a taxpayer, small business owner, with children in Local education, and family member involved in the construction industry, I have encountered first hand some of the problems with the current government.

In summary

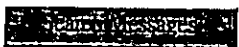
- Mismanagement and lack of direction of schools, refusing to reduce class sizes, rather deciding to close schools.
- Abusing powers in the construction industry, favouring big business over individual opportunities to own housing
- Abusing powers in introducing draconian individual registration cards.
- Creating a culture within the civil service of listening, yet ignoring totally public views on almost any subject.
- Worsing a bad situation where individuals feel less power to control their own opportunities.
- Heading towards a situation where legislation is likely to become close to impossible as it has no mandate.
- Unable to distinguish between small minority group concerns and general public concerns.

While the introduction of universal suffrage is unlikely to solve all of the problems instantly, it has historically been called the best of the worst forms of governance. It is however a dramatic improvement on the present stagnated and problematic situation.

I urge the working group to report that as a citizen of Hong Kong, like many others, We are desperately awaiting the ability to vote out the current administration, and replace it regularly with individuals who show the potential to improve the livelihoods of everyone here.

Yours sincerely
Alan Knowles

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