

Mohammad Shahidzadeh Mahani
Apt. 15, 7088 Inlet drive
Burnaby, British Columbia
V5A 1C1

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Peter Julian
7615 Sixth Street
Burnaby, British Columbia
V3N 3M6

Dear Mr. Peter Julian,

As a representative of the petition team objecting the Bill C-24 amendment regarding the elimination of counting pre-PR time towards citizenship applications, I would like to kindly ask for a meeting with you in order to present you with our petition to recognize foreign workers and international students in Bill C-24. We also would like to thank you for your party's public stance against this bill after the first reading and hope that we can count on your support for our cause.

While we are open to the overhaul of an outdated immigration system, we strongly believe that the Honourable Minister Chris Alexander is going about it the wrong way. Generally, we do agree with the premise that citizenship should only be granted to applicants that establish strong social, economic, and cultural ties with Canada. However, we strongly disagree with parts of the proposed bill that eliminate the consideration of pre-permanent residence time for the aforementioned group of immigrants, as this group clearly has established strong socioeconomic and cultural ties with Canada.

Further, Bill C-24 in its proposed form has the potential to turn away prospective future students and highly skilled foreign workers. This is contrary to the government's proclaimed intentions to attract and to retain foreign talent and may hurt Canada's economy in yet unforeseen ways. Moreover, by retroactively imposing Bill C-24 on current foreign workers and students, that became permanent residents with the government's promise to qualify for citizenship sooner, sends a disingenuous message to these long-term residents that call Canada their home.

We would like to urge you and your fellow MPs to speak out publicly against Bill C-24 and to vote against it. We urge you to call for the withdrawal of the bill as it must be replaced with legislation that is fair and recognizes the special and unique relationship that foreign workers and international students form with Canada.

We would appreciate if we could meet with you in person. This would be an

excellent opportunity for you to share your own opinion on Bill C-24 and to personally connect with the people that are affected by this legislation, and allow for our voices to be heard, and our stories to be shared. At our meeting we would like to present you with our petition, our signature list, and a copy of a document describing our stance and recommendations on this urgent matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Please find our petition and additional supporting material for our case here:

<http://tinyurl.com/petition-bill-c24>

Full link to the documents above on Change.Org website:

<http://www.change.org/en-CA/petitions/house-of-commons-in-parliament-of-canada-do-not-allow-unfair-treatment-of-former-foreign-workers-and-international-students-by-new-canadian-citizenship-bill-c-24>

Yours sincerely,



Mohammad Shahidzadeh Mahani

Mixed Signal Design Engineer
PMC SIERRA
Burnaby, BC, Canada
Email: mohammad.mahani@pmcs.com
Tel: +1.778.881.1331