

**PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED**

We, the undersigned, citizens of Canada draw the attention of the House to the following:

**THAT,**

Whereas the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) was announced in February. 2012 and signed by the Prime Minister in Vladivostok on September 9th, 2012, but kept from the Canadian public and Parliament until September 26th, 2012;

Whereas the agreement, once ratified, would be binding on Canada for 15 years. Should any future government wish to withdraw from these onerous commitments, one year written notice is required, and any existing Chinese investors in Canada would be protected for an additional 15 years;

Whereas FIPA agreements are essentially corporate rights pacts, that provide foreign corporations access to secret arbitration hearings with the power to challenge and overturn democratically passed Canadian laws or regulations that infringe on their “expected” profits;

Whereas similar provisions in NAFTA Chapter 11 have resulted in the Canadian government being forced to pay out millions in settlements to US corporations, the Canada-China FIPA will provide Chinese state-owned enterprises (SOEs), essentially arms of the Chinese government, with the ability to claim damages and complain to the Federal government of laws or regulations made at any level of government that reduce their expectation of profits (“tantamount to expropriation”);

Whereas such agreements are deeply corrosive to Canadian democracy, and this agreement could impact Canadians for generations;

And whereas Australia, having recognized that such corporate rights pacts are inherently destructive and anti-democratic, has decided that it will never again sign such an agreement;

**THEREFORE,**

Your petitioners call on the Government of Canada to,

Decline to ratify the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, take immediate steps to limit the influence of state-owned enterprises over our democracy, in the interest of ensuring that the power over Canadian laws remains in Canadian hands.

**Signature**

**Full Address with City and Province**

**Email (optional)**

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