



For Immediate Release

December 18, 2020

Contact: Samuel Chu

schu@hkdc.us

626.589.1330

Senate Failed to Pass Hong Kong People’s Freedom and Choice Act 2020

WASHINGTON, DC (December 18, 2020) - In response to the failure of the Senate to pass Hong Kong People’s Freedom and Choice Act 2020 today via unanimous consent, HKDC releases the following statement from managing director, Samuel Chu:

“I am deeply disappointed that the Senate failed to advance HR 8428, the Hong Kong People’s Freedom and Choice Act 2020, today under unanimous consent. This Congress had a chance to take bold, immediate, and bipartisan action today – just as they have done all through the past 18 months – to do something tangible for Hong Kongers. We thank Senators Durbin and Blumenthal for their heartfelt and passionate pleas to grant safe harbor to Hong Kongers facing persecution.

Hong Kongers need help NOW.

Over 10,000 activists are facing protest-related, politically motivated charges. For every Joshua Wong, there are 100 more just like him sitting behind bars. The CCP is wiping out a generation of the bravest and brightest in Hong Kong at a very rapid pace. Hong Kongers need every protection and support the US can provide right now and for the US to lead the global coordinated campaign to provide activists safe harbor.

We want to tell Senator Cruz (who objected to the unanimous consent on the Senate floor) that – one needs not to pick between preventing CCP censorship on the silver screen or keeping real-life heroines like Agnes Chow, the real Mulan, from life behind bars. Refusing to deport Hong Kongers back to become political prisoners and calling out atrocities in Xinjiang are not mutually exclusive. Fighting against the CCP and standing with Hong Kong requires every tool at our disposal.

The Senate could have sent a powerful message to China, the world, and especially freedom-loving Hong Kongers today but failed. But we will continue to fight for Hong Kong - and to work with the next Congress and incoming administration to pass and implement critical safe harbor policy for Hong Kongers on day one.”

Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC) is a Washington, DC-based nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Hong Kong’s basic freedoms, the rule of law, and autonomy.

###