

**A PETITION TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
SUPPORT BILL C-378 TO END SWEATSHOP LABOUR GOODS**

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

WHEREAS, Canada sees decent working conditions as a pre requisite to the reduction of poverty and a complementary goal to the strengthening of national economies;

WHEREAS, sweatshops allow corporations to cut their costs by as much as 50 per cent by relaxing safety, environmental and health regulations, to the detriment of neighbouring communities and families;

WHEREAS, the majority of sweatshop workers are women and children who work 12 to 16 hours days, earn between \$1 and \$3 per day and are trapped in an awful cycle of exploitation and abuse;

WHEREAS, the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that 250 million children between the ages of five and fourteen are denied an education and are forced to work, by abduction or by necessity;

WHEREAS, many sweatshop workers are confined, suffer abuse and are denied the right to leave the workplace at the end of a day to visit their families;

AND WHEREAS, Canada is a member of the ILO which considers the right of association, the right to bargain collectively, the prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labour, a minimum age for employment and acceptable conditions of work as standards that must be respected;

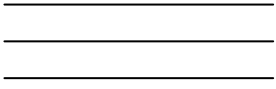
THEREFORE, your petitioners call on the Government of Canada to support Bill C-378, An Act to prohibit sweatshop labour goods, presented in the House by Peter Julian MP, which would prohibit the importation of goods that fail to meet labour standards recognized by the ILO Convention and Protocols to which Canada is a party.

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Please return (postage paid) to:

Peter Julian, M.P. for Burnaby—New Westminster *(Disponible en Français)*
Room 184, Confederation Building, House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

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Peter Julian, MP
Room 184 - Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

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