# Petition to the House of Commons

## Stop the Use of Secret Evidence in Canadian Trials!

**WE, the undersigned residents of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:**

THAT the hallmark of a civilized society is that its criminal justice system arrests and prosecutes individuals and does not hand out collective punishments and selective justice. Canadians learned this lesson from the wrongful internment of Ukrainian, Italian and Japanese Canadians during World Wars I and II.

THAT the Immigrant and Refugee Protection Act, introduced after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 in the USA, allow the fundamentals of the rule of law to be breached. Under the Immigrant and Refugee Protection Act, people in Canada can be arrested and detained through a security certificate process and never see the entire evidence against them, and as such, their fundamental right to a fair trial is violated.

**THEREFORE, we petitioners call upon Parliament to:**

REPEAL the sections of the Immigrant and Refugee Protection Act that legalize the use of secret evidence, and until such time as it is repealed to
GUARANTEE due process is followed in every arrest no matter the race or religion of the person under suspicion, and to ENSURE that the presumption of innocence is maintained until a detainee is found guilty in a proper court of law, and to CEASE all current use of secret evidence in Canadian courts.

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Please return to: VIPIRG, Box 3035, Stn CSC, SUB B122, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC V8W 3P3