

NEWS RELEASE

British Columbia Civil Liberties Association
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Government Shielding No-Fly Program from Parliament

The B.C. Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA) is calling on the government of Canada to bring the recently announced details of Passenger Protect to an appropriate Parliamentary Committee for review.

Today the government issued a press release with information on its “no-fly program” designed to prevent people deemed security risks from boarding an airplane. Part of the program is being implemented by regulations to the *Aeronautics Act*.

The government maintains that it is authorized to create a no-fly program under amendments to the *Aeronautics Act* brought in under the *Public Safety Act 2002*, a massive omnibus piece of legislation that has generated serious and persistent criticism.

The BCCLA maintains that the no-fly program has never been subject to a genuine level of democratic process and Parliamentary debate.

Jason Gratl, President of the BCCLA: "Nowhere is a no-fly list spelled out in legislation and we have no recollection of a no-fly list being before Parliament. If a no-fly list was what the government envisioned all along, it certainly kept that vision a well-kept secret at the time it was actually before our elected representatives."

“A program like Passenger Protect, that on its face presents a serious threat of racial and religious discrimination and has profound implications for citizens’ liberty, must be brought before our elected representatives in a way that is open, clear and straightforward. At a minimum that is the Parliamentary Committee Review Process.”

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