

Standing Committee on Finance – Pre-Budget Consultation Submission (August 3, 2017)

No Fly List Kids (“NFLK”, www.noflylistkids.ca, est. Jan 2016) is a group of concerned families that are committed to protecting their children’s Charter of Rights by ensuring they are not flagged and detained by airport security for being a *false positive*, which means having the same name as someone on the No Fly List (Passenger Protect Program). We are requesting our government to create a redress system to distinguish our innocent children and young adults from persons of criminal interest.

Children are not the only ones impacted by the lack of a redress system. Business people from all walks of life are also on the list and they are routinely delayed or canceled from international flights. The current program is negatively affecting commerce through impacts on trade and international business transactions. It adversely affects tourism to Canada by preventing those persons who are innocent of any wrongdoing from visiting Canada.

From a security perspective the current program without a suitable redress system identifies young children from birth to their early teenage years as potential terrorists. If this becomes known amongst our major trading partners our security system will be derided as being ineffective at best and dangerous at worst.

False-positives on the no-fly list raise serious [privacy rights implications](#) and also affect the Charter-protected mobility rights of Canadians of all ages, including children. Children & adults on this list have been unfairly screened and interrogated multiple times. Without a redress system this will continue to happen making travel a nightmare for those individuals and their families. Foreign governments may detain individuals who are wrongly identified as security risks leading to potentially disastrous results and requiring significant government intervention at great financial cost to Canadians and grave personal risk to individuals.

Although some members of the [Canadian government](#) have been very supportive and have made efforts to resolve this issue, the response is slow and funding was not approved in the 2017 budget. We are strongly recommending on behalf of the many families affected and the many that have not yet come forward that this issue be made a priority and an appropriate budget be allocated for it in 2018.

The establishment of a redress system now is economically feasible and will result in a safer more cost effective means to properly identify those individuals who are a risk to others and indemnify those whose only crime is being born with a name that is similar to that of another person. It will allow for improved economic outcomes in international trade as well as tourism. It will also correct a blatant political error that was ignored by the last governing party and is being discussed now by at least one opposition party.

Please act now before another person is seriously harmed by the current ineffective system.

We also request the opportunity to meet with the Standing Committee on Finance at an appropriate time in the near future in order to discuss this issue in greater depth and to offer insights into potential solutions that will benefit all Canadians.