

April 25, 2020

By email

Letters to the Editor
The Washington Post
1150 15th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20071

Dear Letters Editor,

The April 21 editorial “A new crackdown in Hong Kong” unfairly suggests that the recent arrests of people for taking part in unauthorized assemblies last year threaten Hong Kong’s independent legal system.

In adjudicating cases, our courts are concerned only with the law. Prosecutorial decisions are based on an objective assessment of admissible evidence, applicable laws and the Prosecution Code, and are made independently without fear or favor.

In Hong Kong everyone is equal before the law. Regardless of a person’s background or political beliefs, they have a duty to abide by the law.

The rule of law is a core value of Hong Kong. Our commitment to the rule of law was reaffirmed by the recent release of the Rule of Law Index 2020 by the World Justice Project. Hong Kong is ranked fifth in the East Asia and Pacific region and 16th globally out of 128 countries and jurisdictions for its rule of law performance.

Hong Kong’s retention of the common law system and an independent judiciary go to the heart of the “one country, two systems” principle. Hong Kong people will steadfastly uphold them.

Eddie Mak, Washington

The writer is the Hong Kong commissioner for the United States.