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# Assembly California Legislature

**KEN MADDOX**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT



COMMITTEES:  
VICE-CHAIR,  
INSURANCE  
AGRICULTURE  
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY  
AND TOXIC MATERIALS  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
UTILITIES AND COMMERCE

October 22, 2002

To My Vietnamese-American Constituents:

As the Assemblyman representing 68th District, I recognize your concerns regarding the following issues:

1. Legal questions regarding the secret nature of the land/sea concessions between Vietnam and China from December 1999 to December 2000. Approximately 270 square miles of land and 4247 square miles of the Gulf of Tonkin were given up by the Vietnamese communist government. It is unclear whether this was ratified by the Vietnamese congress or signed off by only a few top officials.
2. The lack of basic democracy and freedom of press in Vietnam. These land/sea concessions by the Vietnamese communist officials were handled privately. Vietnamese citizens did not have a chance to voice their opinions regarding a concession that will affect their livelihood for many generations to come.
3. The abuse of human rights and suppression of free speech in Vietnam. Several outspoken citizens, such as Quang Chi Le. Binh Vu Nguyen. Son Hong Pham. Father Lv Van Nguen and Buddhist clergyman Do Quang Thich, have been arrested illegally after speaking out against the secret land/sea concessions. They are being held in jail indefinitely and may be subjected to an unfair trial or secret execution.

As your elected official, I oppose the abuse of human rights and suppression of free speech in Vietnam and support your effort to notify your fellow Vietnamese citizens in Vietnam regarding the issues mentioned above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Maddox".

KEN MADDOX  
Assemblyman. 68th District

KN:slm