Refugee Transportation Loans Petition

Petition to the Government of Canada

We, the undersigned citizens and residents of Canada draw the attention of the Government of Canada to the following:

THAT refugees resettled to Canada must pay for their medical exam and their travel to Canada. Since most refugees of course can't afford these expenses, Canada offers them a loan. As a result, refugee families start their new life in Canada with a debt of up to $10,000. They must repay this loan with interest.

THAT the burden of the transportation loans is having a painful impact on thousands of refugees and on Canadian society. It undermines refugees' ability to integrate and to contribute to their full potential in their new home. Refugee youth are forced to work long hours while going to school, or even postpone further education, because of the need to pay back the debt.

THAT the cost to the federal government of absorbing the medical and transportation expenses would be insignificant in terms of the overall budget. It would also be a good investment as it would enable refugees to integrate much more quickly and contribute to the economy.

THEREFORE, your petitioners call upon the Government of Canada to:

Absorb the costs of the transportation and overseas medical expenses for resettled refugees and dependants abroad of protected persons.

Signature (Sign your own name. Do not print)	**Address** (Give your full home address, or your city and province, or province and postal code)

Please present completed, signed petitions (you'll need a minimum of 25 signatures) to your local Member of Parliament with a request that s/he present them in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

6839 Drolet #302, Montréal, QC, Canada H2S 2T1 info@ccrweb.ca (514) 277-7223 FAX: (514) 277-1447, www.ccrweb.ca

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