Petition in support of MacGregor bill to end Vancouver Island Anchorages (Bill C-250)

We, the undersigned residents of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

WHEREAS Transport Canada's Interim Protocol on the use of Southern BC Anchorages created a "voluntary protocol" aimed at reducing lights and noise an creating an equitable rotation of these anchorages, which has been largely ignored and not enforced, and residents have seen both the frequency and duration of freighters at anchor increase over the past ten years;

WHEREAS ancient clam beds, prawns, oysters, and endangered species, such as the southern resident killer whale, are at risk of environmental impact from these vessels, which have been shown to swing at anchor, increasing the risks of them coming aground and causing environmental and ecological disaster;

WHEREAS the federal government sees value in protecting the sensitive marine habitat in these waters through the establishment of a National Marine Conservation Area and that they should therefore not be used as an overflow industrial parking lot for the Port of Vancouver;

AND WHEREAS First Nations in the region were not consulted, nor did they give their free, prior, and informed consent to the establishment of these anchorages in their unceded and traditional territories;

THEREFORE we call on the Government of Canada to support NDP MP Alistair MacGregor's Bill C-250, *An Act to amend the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 (anchorage prohibition)*, to end the use of Southern BC Anchorages in the Strait of Georgia to protect our Vancouver Island coast and delicate ecosystems.

NAME (print)	FULL STREET ADDRESS	POSTAL CODE	SIGNATURE
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