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STATEMENT FOR REALEASE:

While I am pleased to know that NTDTV has found a new venue for their dance competition, I remain troubled by recent developments in Hong Kong regarding the cancellation of the New Tang Dynasty Television's agreement to use the Grand Theater of Heung Yee Kuk for the 2016 International Chinese Classical Dance Preliminary Competition meant to be held on July 30, 2016. While the Hong Kong Government has claimed it needs the Grand Theater to prepare for their Legislative Council elections in September, such actions fit into a pattern of other instances where the Chinese Communist Party has pressured the Hong Kong Government to limit the freedom of speech and expression of its citizens, breaking the "One Country, Two Systems" promise they made when Hong Kong was transferred back to its authority. I believe that cultural expression and the arts play an integral role in society and urge the Chinese Communist regime and the government of Hong Kong to respect the rights on Hong Kong's citizens and cease all efforts to exert its influence on the NTDTV Dance Competition moving forward at the new venue, MacPherson Stadium, on August 1.



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress