

**Letterhead of Hong Kong special Administrative Region of the People's of China
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

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By Fax (2591 6002)
14 June 2001

Mr W K LAM, GBS, JP
Secretary for Home Affairs
Home Affairs Bureau
31st floor, Southorn Centre
130 Hennessy Road
Hong Kong

Dear Mr LAM,

LegCo Panel on Home Affairs

On the instruction of Hon Andrew CHENG, Chairman of the Panel, I write to inform you that the Panel on Home Affairs passed a motion at its meeting on 12 June 2001 objecting to the Administration's proposal to create an additional Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post in the Information Services Department (ISD) to serve as the Press Secretary to the Financial Secretary.

The Panel was briefed on the proposal at its meeting on 12 June 2001. There were divided views; some members expressed support for the proposal while other members had strong reservations. Some members questioned the rationale for pitching the proposed post at D2 level. The Panel requested the Deputy Director (Public Relations) of ISD, Mrs Juliana CHEN, to provide additional information on the proposal. The Panel also requested that the Administration should not submit the proposal to the Establishment Subcommittee (ESC) for approval at its meeting on 20 June 2001 so that the Panel could consider the proposal at its next meeting on 10 July 2001.

In response, Mrs CHEN told the Panel that the Administration intended to submit the proposal to the ESC on 20 June 2001. The Panel passed the following motion at the meeting -

"That this Panel does not support the Administration's proposal to create an additional Administrative Officer Staff Grade C post in the Information Services Department to serve as the Press Secretary to the Financial Secretary."

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Flora TAI)
Clerk to Panel

c.c. Hon Andrew CHENG (Chairman)
Clerk to the LegCo Establishment Subcommittee