

(English translation prepared
by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for Members' reference only)

(Letterhead of Legislative Councillor Lau Chin-shek's Office)

19 March 2001

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, JP
Chairman of the House Committee

Dear Mrs CHOW,

Farewell to Mrs Anson CHAN, Chief Secretary for Administration

Thank you for allowing me to propose for discussion at the House Committee meeting last Friday (i.e. 16 March 2001) a motion to bid farewell to Mrs Anson CHAN, Chief Secretary for Administration. To facilitate further deliberation of this matter at the coming House Committee meeting this Friday (i.e. 23 March 2001), I would like to put forward the following views and proposal for Members' discussion.

Mrs Anson CHAN, who is going to retire at the end of April this year, has served as a civil servant for over 30 years in various government departments. Before and after 1997, she has led the 190 000-strong civil service through a smooth transition to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and in continuing to serve the public. As the former Chief Secretary and the first Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR, Mrs CHAN has worked very hard for Hong Kong and, in particular, she has undoubtedly played a special role in leading the civil service through a smooth transition.

Therefore, I propose that a valedictory motion be moved in the Legislative Council before Mrs CHAN's retirement, so that all Members, and even Mrs CHAN herself (if she so wishes), can speak freely on the motion. Specifically, I propose that the House Committee endorse my proposal for you as the Chairman to move a motion to that effect on behalf of the House Committee at the Council meeting on 25 April 2001 under Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure. I suggest the following motion wording for Members' consideration: "That this Council bids farewell to Mrs Anson CHAN, Chief Secretary for Administration."

In my opinion, a motion debate is the simplest way for such purpose, which also complies with the Rules of Procedure. I hope that my proposal will be given favourable consideration by you and other colleagues. Thank you.

LAU Chin-shek