Our ref: *Tel:* 2973 8121

Your ref: Fax: 2840 0467 / 2869 4376

4 June 2001

By Fax: 2509 9055

Clerk to Subcommittee to study discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation Legislative Council Building Jackson Road Hong Kong (Attn: Miss Flora Tai)

Dear Miss Tai,

LegCo Panel on Home Affairs Subcommittee to study discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation

I refer to your letter dated 20 April on the captioned subject, requesting us to seek legal advice from the Department of Justice as to whether the draft blood donation registration form is consistent with the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance.

The Administration is of the view that if the draft blood donation registration form, including all the questions therein, has been designed based on objective considerations to elicit information from blood donors with a view to protecting blood recipients from the risk of receiving unsafe blood, it will not be inconsistent with Article 22 of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance which prohibits discrimination on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Yours sincerely,

(Eric Chan) for Secretary for Health and Welfare

c.c. HA (Attn : Dr. S H Liu)

HAB (Attn: Miss Linda Leung)