Paper No. CB(2)1725/00-01(02)

By fax & by post: 2509 9055

4 June 2001

Our ref: HA 505/9/15 Your Ref: (59) in LM to HW 3/3921/78 (94) IV

Clerk to Subcommittee to Study Discrimination on the Ground of Sexual Orientation 3/F, Citibank Tower, 3 Garden Road, Hong Kong (Attn : Miss Flora Tai)

Dear Miss Tai,

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

According to the legal opinion sought by Hospital Authority is that there is no question of discrimination in the draft blood donation registration form. In particular, the draft is consistent with the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance.

Question 23 in Section A of the draft blood donation registration form enquires about certain behaviours which, as explained by the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Services, carry a relatively higher risk of transmitting dangerous infectious viruses. Question 23 is not directed at a donor's gender or sexual orientation, and is not intended to solicit information on whether a donor is a heterosexual, bisexual, or homosexual.

Yours sincerely

(Dr S H Liu) For Chief Executive

cc HWB (Attn: Mr Eric Chan) HAB (Attn: Miss Linda Leung)

L134