

立法會 CB(2) 1284/02-03(01)號文件
LC Paper No. CB(2) 1284/02-03(01)

The SoHo
Association Limited
S
O
H
O

The SoHo Association Limited.

Comments on Paper LC CB (2) 390/02-03(04)


In principle the Soho Association supports the Association of Restaurant Managers and the HK FORT in that we would like to see a level playing field for business and are concerned about the hygiene/safety issues already stated.

With regards to the comments made in the paper about how private kitchens would, "enhance Hong Kong's status as a gourmet center contributing in turn to the promotion of tourism." The Soho Association requests the government provide proof that this would be the case.

As Soho is perhaps Hong Kong's top dining tourist attraction, we believe that private kitchens will actually harm Hong Kong's reputation, rather than improve it. The Tourism Board can easily assess this, as most private kitchens will fail their "QTS" assessment if made to take it. Should private kitchens be classified as a tourist attraction, surely the integrity of the QTS would have to be questioned as well?

Soho is also based in a residential area. For that reason we believe that we are in a gray area with regards to licensing. Some of our restaurants can only seat 18 people and yet they are required to get a full restaurant or food factory license. We would like to know if the regulations were placed, would it be possible for such restaurants only apply for a private kitchen license? How would the government regulate the new licenses? There are after all already many private kitchens operating in our area that were/are not burdened with licensing costs.

Best Regards,



Nimal Jayawardena
Chairman- Soho Association
16th Feb 2003

The SoHo Association Limited
3/F Al Aqar House, 30 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong
Tel: 25268544. Fax: 25265199. E-mail: kim@sohodelivery.com.hk