

(Translation)

Motion of Thanks
moved by Hon Miriam LAU Kin-ye
at the Legislative Council meeting commencing on
Wednesday, 24 October 2007

**Motion as amended by Hon Albert HO Chun-yan, Hon Fred LI Wah-ming,
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo and Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee**

“That this Council thanks the Chief Executive for his address, but strongly requests the Government to increase the rates of the Normal Old Age Allowance and Higher Old Age Allowance for the elderly to \$900 and \$1,000 per month respectively, so as to improve the life of the poor elderly; this Council also expresses deep disappointment that, despite a huge surplus in the government treasury, the Chief Executive only deploys a meagre amount of resources to enhance the medical services for the elderly, which is hardly sufficient to meet the medical needs of the elderly in the lower class; this Council urges the Chief Executive and the Government to adopt measures and devote more resources to enhance the medical services for the elderly, including extending the beneficiaries of the health care vouchers to all senior citizens aged 65 or above, increasing the amount of subsidy for each elderly recipient, offering half-fee concession for public medical services to all senior citizens, setting up a fund to subsidize dental services for the elderly, and providing all senior citizens with free vaccination against influenza, etc; this Council at the same time urges the Government to set up an ad hoc committee headed by the Chief Secretary for Administration to tackle the problem of poverty, and to expeditiously implement the recommendations put forward by the Commission on Poverty and the Legislative Council Subcommittee to Study the Subject of Combating Poverty in their reports, as well as to deploy more resources to develop social enterprises.”