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23 January 2009

Mr Peter TAM  
Chief Executive  
The Hong Kong Federation of Insurers  
29/F Sunshine Plaza  
353 Lockhart Road  
Wanchai  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr TAM,

**Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill 2008**

On behalf of the Bills Committee formed to study the Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill 2008, I write to invite representatives of the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers to a meeting of the Bills Committee scheduled for **Thursday, 5 February 2009, at 2:30 pm in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building** to provide information on whether currently there are insurance products to protect local food traders for the loss they have suffered in relation to food incidents. If there are no such products, to give views on the feasibility of introducing new insurance scheme(s) to protect local food traders as a result of the implementation of the Bill.

The Bill seeks to amend the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to empower the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene to make orders administratively to prohibit the import and sale of problem food and recall of problem food. The Bill and the relevant papers can be retrieved from:  
<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr08-09/english/bc/bc51/general/bc51.htm>.

If your organisation wishes to attend the meeting to give views and/or provide written submission, I should be grateful if you could complete and return the attached reply slip **on or before Tuesday, 3 February 2009**. If the submission is available in both Chinese and English, please provide both versions. If your representative(s) wish to address the Bills Committee in Putonghua, please notify us in advance. The agenda of the meeting and membership of the Bills Committee are attached for your reference.

You may wish to note that when addressing the Bills Committee, your representative(s) are not covered by the protection and immunity provided under the Legislative Council (Powers and Privileges) Ordinance (Cap. 382). Your written submission will also not be covered by the Ordinance. In line with our usual practice, your written submission will be made available to the media and the public unless you advise otherwise. As your written submission will also be made available on the website of the Council, please let us have a softcopy of it via [shau@legco.gov.hk](mailto:shau@legco.gov.hk), if available.

If your organisation wishes to give views and/or provide written submission at a later date, please contact the undersigned or Ms Sandy HAU at telephone number 2869 9425.

Yours sincerely,

(Mary SO)  
Clerk to Bills Committee

Encl.