

立法會
Legislative Council

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Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 4 December 2008

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 17 December 2008

**Motion on
“Alleviating the burden of travelling expenses”**

Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming has given notice to move the attached motion on “Alleviating the burden of travelling expenses” at the Council meeting of 17 December 2008. The President has directed that “it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in” on the Agenda of the Council.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion on
“Alleviating the burden of travelling expenses”
to be moved by Hon CHEUNG Hok-ming
at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 17 December 2008**

Wording of the Motion

“That, as the people of Hong Kong has long been bearing a heavy burden of travelling expenses and a large number of middle-class and grassroots face further difficulties in life amid continuous layoffs and pay cuts by enterprises under the impact of the financial tsunami, this Council urges the Government to adopt effective measures to alleviate the burden of travelling expenses on the public, including:

- (a) providing subsidies to the MTR Corporation, bus companies and ferry operators so that they will offer half-fare concessions to passengers on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, thereby enabling the public to have more opportunities to get together with their families and friends on those days;
- (b) further relaxing the eligibility criteria and subsidy period under the Transport Support Scheme, and expanding the Scheme to cover all districts in the territory;
- (c) discussing with various public transport operators to offer the Free-ride Day for the elderly on Sundays and public holidays on a permanent basis, formulate an implementation timetable for the provision of half-fare concessions to people with disabilities, and study the feasibility of introducing daily, weekly and monthly travel passes that are valid among various public transport operators;
- (d) focusing on the problem of high fares of outlying island ferry services, studying suitable options and allocating resources to alleviate the burden of ferry service expenses on outlying island residents, and offering half-fare concessions on ferry services to students of outlying islands;
- (e) discussing with the MTR Corporation to extend its two-year fare-freeze period, re-launch the ‘Ride 10 Get One Free’ Promotion, set up more MTR Fare Savers and explore further extension of the existing monthly ticket schemes; and
- (f) discussing with the franchised bus companies ways to improve their existing fare structures, expeditiously revise the scale of fares under the Public Bus Services Ordinance as well as the route groupings under the scale, reformulate the existing guidelines on the setting of fares to provide comprehensive sectional fares and bus-bus interchange concessions, including discounts for interchange among buses of different companies, provide half-fare concessions to all full-time students, as well as introduce daily and monthly ticket schemes for buses.”