



立法會

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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By Fax (2761 5800)

10 August 2010

Ms Eva CHENG, JP
Chairman
Housing Authority
33 Fat Kwong Street
Ho Man Tin
Kowloon

Dear Ms CHENG,

Subcommittee to Study Issues Relating to Mainland-HKSAR Families

Support services for families with members holding Two Way Permits

As you may be aware, the captioned Subcommittee was formed under the House Committee to study the population policy and measures relating to Mainland-Hong Kong families, and make recommendations in this regard.

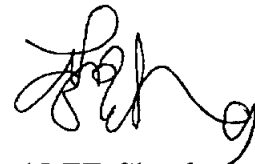
The Subcommittee has held discussions on the public housing support services for families with newly arrived members from the Mainland, and those with members holding Two Way Permits ("TWP"). The Subcommittee notes that the Housing Authority ("HA") has provided various support services for these families to meet their specific housing needs. Specifically, if a tenant has deceased and the surviving spouse is a TWP holder with substantial grounds to stay in Hong Kong, such as the need to take care of his/her Hong Kong-born young children living in a public rental housing ("PRH") flat, HA may allow him/her to stay in the flat temporarily. In such case, HA may grant the tenancy to an adult relative or a legal guardian of the children. As regards the divorced PRH tenants, if either spouse is a TWP holder with substantial grounds to stay in Hong Kong, such as the need of looking after his/her young children in Hong Kong, HA may grant the spouse temporary stay in a PRH flat on individual merits.

Members are concerned about the ineligibility for PRH applications of Hong Kong-born children under the age of 18 who are not living in a PRH flat and whose single mothers are TWP holders. Under the current arrangement, application for PRH from these families will not be accepted because none of the family members meets the application requirements. While appreciating the policy considerations of setting the requirement that PRH applicants must be aged 18 or above, members strongly urge HA to actively consider accepting PRH applications from these families who are in dire need of a PRH flat. Consideration should be given to granting the tenancy to an adult relative of the children and allowing the Mainland single parent of the children to stay in the flat temporarily to take care of them, having taking into account the circumstances and merits of the case, and if they satisfy the income and asset limits.

The Subcommittee has instructed me to convey the request to you. I look forward to your early reply.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



(LEE Cheuk-yan)
Chairman to Subcommittee

c.c. Secretary for Home Affairs (Attn. : Ms Grace LUI)

Director of Housing (Attn : Mr Tony LIU)