

Dear Miss Lai,

I am the owner and director of a small jewellery trading company based in Hong Kong. As a local jewellery designer and businessman, I would like to express my view on the Competition Bill for your consideration.

Over the last fifteen years, I have been working very hard in starting and operating my own jewellery business which was by no way an easy job for me. I am now happy with my business and I have taken the initiative to set up the Hong Kong International Jewellery Designer Association with some of my friends in the trade. During my struggle to gain recognition and sales for my products, I have come across a lot of challenges and I find that the Hong Kong Trade Development Council has been very helpful to young entrepreneurs and businessmen like me in Hong Kong. Apart from the advice I got from the Council concerning the setting up and operation of my business, I have also benefited a lot from the exhibitions organized by the Council. Since I operate my business on a small scale only, I have had difficulty fighting against big companies in securing a good location in jewellery exhibitions organized by other organizers. Fortunately, as small local companies are given special consideration in the allocation of exhibition booths in exhibitions organized by the Council, I have been able to promote my products and my brand name to overseas buyers and achieve good sales for my products. As the Vice-Chairman of the Hong Kong International Jewellery Designer Association, I consider that I owe my success to the Trade Development Council of Hong Kong.

While I agree to the rationale of enacting competition law in Hong Kong, I would like to see the Hong Kong Trade Development Council be given exemption under the Competition Law in view of the important role it plays in Hong Kong. Only when the Council is granted exemption under the Competition Law will small local companies be able to compete with big companies in Hong Kong.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

With regards,

Michael Wong

Director

Artis Jewellery Co., Ltd.