

(Translation prepared by the
Legislative Council Secretariat)

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23 June 2010

Urgent By Fax: 2151 9011

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan
Room 602, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms HO

Council meeting of 23 June 2010

**Application for moving a motion
for the adjournment of the Council**

You wrote to me on 22 June 2010 seeking my permission for you to move at today's Council meeting the following motion for the adjournment of the Council under Rule 16(2) of the Rules of Procedure:

“That this Council do now adjourn for the purpose of debating the following issue: the Administration's public consultation work on the new functional constituency seats being returned using the electoral model of ‘one-person-two-votes’.”

Rule 16(2) of the Rules of Procedure provides that a motion for the adjournment of the Council may be moved with the permission of the President, if the President is satisfied that the adjournment is for the purpose of discussing a specific issue of urgent public importance. As such, I have to rule whether the issue raised by you is of urgent public importance.

I have carefully considered the reasons for holding the debate as stated in your letter, and I agree that the issue raised by you is of public importance. In considering whether the issue for debate raised by you is urgent, I have made reference to the two established principles which are adopted for considering applications of the same type of motion debates, namely:

- (a) if the debate is not carried out at the Council meeting specified by the Member concerned, whether there will be any irreversible consequences; and
- (b) if the issue is not debated at that Council meeting, whether the Council will not debate the issue in the foreseeable future?

The issue for debate raised by you is “the Administration’s public consultation work on the new functional constituency seats being returned using the electoral model of ‘one-person-two-votes’ ”. I understand that the issue is related to the electoral model of “one-person-two-votes” as mentioned in the statement made by the Chief Executive regarding the Motion concerning the Amendment to the Method for the Formation of the Legislative Council and its Voting Procedures on 21 June 2010. According to the Chief Executive’s statement that day, if the two motions concerning the Amendment to the Method for the Selection of the Chief Executive and the Motion concerning the Amendment to the Method for the Formation of the Legislative Council and its Voting Procedures are passed by the Legislative Council today, the Administration will put forward proposals for local legislation embodying the model of “one-person-two-votes” after the Legislative Council resumes business in the autumn this year.

I am therefore of the view that even if the issue raised by you is not debated at today’s Council meeting, there will not be any irreversible consequences, and Members will not lose the opportunity to express views on that issue at Council meetings. Furthermore, when Members debate the “Motion concerning the Amendment to the Method for the Formation of the Legislative Council and its Voting Procedures” at today’s Council meeting, they may also express their views on your issue of concern as stated above.

Based on the above reasons, I am not satisfied that the issue raised by you is so urgent that it must be debated at today’s Council meeting. Therefore, I am unable to grant permission to your request.

Yours sincerely

(Jasper TSANG Yok-sing)
President
Legislative Council

c.c. All other Legislative Council Members