

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(3) 150/13-14

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Date : 8 November 2013

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 13 November 2013**

**Amendments to motion on  
“Opposing the expansion of labour importation”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 119/13-14 issued on 1 November 2013, four Members (Hon POON Siu-ping, Hon Frankie YICK, Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan and Hon LEE Cheuk-yan) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon KWOK Wai-keung’s motion on “Opposing the expansion of labour importation” scheduled for the Council meeting of 13 November 2013. As directed by the President, the respective amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and the four amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and the amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon KWOK Wai-keung to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon KWOK Wai-keung’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the four Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
  - (i) Hon POON Siu-ping;
  - (ii) Hon Frankie YICK;

- (iii) Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan; and
- (iv) Hon LEE Cheuk-yan;
- (d) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon KWOK Wai-keung to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon POON Siu-ping to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon POON Siu-ping's amendment;
- (i) after Hon POON Siu-ping's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other three amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon KWOK Wai-keung to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon KWOK Wai-keung's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Odelia LEUNG)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on  
“Opposing the expansion of labour importation”  
to be held at the Council meeting of 13 November 2013**

**1. Hon KWOK Wai-keung’s original motion**

That the Government has recently released a population policy consultation document entitled ‘Thoughts for Hong Kong’, which mentions the problem of manpower shortage in certain industries, thus triggering off discussions on whether it is necessary to import labour to Hong Kong; yet in reality, although the economic environment is booming in recent years, soaring rents have eroded wage increases, resulting in employees not only being unable to share the fruit of economic development, but also facing a harsh working environment of long working hours and poor benefits, etc.; should more workers be imported, local workers’ bargaining power will be further undermined; in this connection, this Council opposes the expansion of labour importation.

**2. Motion as amended by Hon POON Siu-ping**

That ~~the Government has recently released a~~, *as the* population policy consultation document entitled ‘Thoughts for Hong Kong’, which ~~mentions~~ *has recently been released by the Government, points out* the problem of manpower shortage in certain industries, ~~thus triggering off discussions on the various sectors in society have further expressed concern on~~ whether it is necessary to import labour to Hong Kong; ~~yet in reality, although the economic environment in fact, there has been an established mechanism for labour importation in Hong Kong to deal with any labour importation proposal;~~ *although the economy* is booming in recent years, soaring rents have eroded wage increases, resulting in employees not only being unable to share the fruit of economic development, but also facing a harsh working environment of long working hours and poor benefits, etc.; should more workers be imported, local workers’ bargaining power will be further undermined; in this connection, this Council opposes the expansion of labour importation.

Note: Hon POON Siu-ping’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### 3. Motion as amended by Hon Frankie YICK

That ~~the Government has recently released a~~, *as the* population policy consultation document entitled ‘Thoughts for Hong Kong’, which *has recently been released by the Government*, mentions the problem of manpower shortage in certain industries, ~~thus triggering off~~ discussions on whether it is necessary to import labour to Hong Kong; ~~yet in reality, although the economic environment is booming in recent years, soaring rents have eroded wage increases, resulting in employees not only being unable to share the fruit of economic development, but also facing a harsh working environment of long working hours and poor benefits, etc.;~~ *should more workers be imported, local workers’ bargaining power will be further undermined* *have been triggered off among people of the various sectors; in fact, recruitment difficulties exist in many industries with longer working hours or requiring more manual labour such as construction, transportation, logistics, retail, catering, healthcare and elderly care industries, etc., and some vacancies have been left unfilled for a long time due to poor response, thus affecting the normal development of these industries;* in this connection, this Council ~~opposes the expansion of~~ *requests the Government to, while according priority to the employment of local workers, also give consideration to economic development, address the need for importing talents in a balanced manner, and expeditiously and appropriately expand* labour importation *for individual industries.*

Note: Hon Frankie YICK’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### 4. Motion as amended by Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan

That *labour importation is a highly controversial policy in Hong Kong;* the Government has recently released a population policy consultation document entitled ‘Thoughts for Hong Kong’, which mentions the problem of manpower shortage in certain industries, thus triggering off discussions on whether it is necessary to import *more* labour to Hong Kong; ~~yet in reality, although the economic environment is booming in recent years, soaring rents have eroded~~ *high inflation has eroded employees’ real* wage increases, ~~resulting in employees not only rendering them~~ being unable to share the fruit of economic development, ~~but also~~ *with some employees even* facing a harsh working environment of long working hours and poor benefits, etc.; ~~should more workers be imported, local workers’~~ *rashly imported, local workers will be worried about their* bargaining power ~~will be~~ *being* further undermined; *yet on the other hand, the local labour market is still plagued with a manpower mismatch in that ‘while there are job vacancies left unfilled, some people remain jobless’, impeding the development of certain industries;* in this

connection, this Council opposes *urges that the Government must adhere to the objectives of ensuring local workers' priority in employment and promoting the sustainable development of the Hong Kong economy, and strengthen employment support, protection and training, so as to raise local workers' quality and remuneration; the Government must also promote family-friendly employment measures and support persons with disabilities and ethnic minorities in areas such as employment, etc., so as to further release the local labour force; in addition, the Government must prudently deal with the issue concerning the expansion of labour importation, and only implement the relevant arrangements for individual job types with continuous labour shortage and subject to the consensus of the Labour Advisory Board.*

Note: Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **5. Motion as amended by Hon LEE Cheuk-yan**

That the Government has recently released a population policy consultation document entitled 'Thoughts for Hong Kong', which mentions the problem of manpower shortage in certain industries, thus triggering off discussions on whether it is necessary to import labour to Hong Kong; yet in reality, although the economic environment is booming in recent years, soaring rents have eroded wage increases, resulting in employees not only being unable to share the fruit of economic development, but also facing a harsh working environment of long working hours and poor benefits, etc.; should more workers be imported, local workers' bargaining power will be further undermined; in this connection, this Council opposes the expansion of labour importation, *urges the Government to strengthen protection for local workers' rights and interests as well as remuneration, and take measures to release Hong Kong's potential labour force; the relevant measures should include:*

- (1) *to substantially increase child care and after-school care services, and employ home-based child carers with full-time remuneration, so that homemakers who intend to work can return to the labour market;*
- (2) *through providing tax and pension contribution concessions, legislating against age discrimination, and protecting the rights and interests of part-time workers, etc., to assist and encourage elderly people or retirees who intend to work to continue working;*
- (3) *to implement a quota system for employing persons with disabilities in the Government and the public sector, encourage private enterprises to employ more persons with disabilities, and provide subsidies to make up for the shortfalls in minimum wage for persons with*

*disabilities, so that more persons with disabilities can enjoy employment opportunities; and*

- (4) *to strengthen the support for young people, new arrivals and ethnic minorities, including suitable education and vocational training, so as to increase their employment opportunities and productivity.*

Note: Hon LEE Cheuk-yan's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.