

Monday Liberation Frontier 星期一解放陣線

25 hours a day, 8 days a week, and ministers went "hide and seek"

Our opinion for «Standard Working Hours»

Not just a joke, but this is how your working schedule will be if "Standard Working Hour" became "Assigned Working Hour". Obviously it is a scam proposed by our government, especially a *biased* committee, where the workers didn't have a fair voice in composing agreements. For the sake of labour rights, as well as protecting our calendar system, DO NOT ACCEPT IT!

We appreciate labour rights for ALL the employed ones in the world; with identical universality of human rights, without any segregation of occupation, wage position, any any criteria dividing the working class. In case the Working Hour limit applies with particular limitations, one could easily lift this ban by, if legal, "adjust" worker's wage *by merely a dime*, misplacing the workers, or anything to avoid the regulation.

The main dispute of "free from poverty" can never be achieved from Standard Working Hours unless any limiting criteria is waived in the

regulation of working hours, any "screening" criteria will result in "false exodus" from exploitation and poverty.

And please be minded that the introduction of SWH has little effect on labour market and our industry. Occupational health and safety can be achieved through the enforcement of SWH, which significantly reduces the probability of work accidents due to fatigues from prolonged duration of work. Beside of safety issues, both workers' physical and mental health are achievable with SWH, followed by rapid reduction of expenditure on medicine, which is beneficial to both labour and governing bodies.

Standard Working Hours not only releases workers from repeated stress and "diseases of affluence", but also unleashes the potentials of the workers' talent, and the quality of life. Parents benefited from SWH acquire more time in education their children, which down-fits the crime rates, suicide rates, and occurrence of bullying, achieving the concrete whole-person development and future development of our country.

Labour rights are universal, regardless of their countries they are, and their economic systems. Regulated working hours exercised in the rest of the world have shown that SWH, or any regulations limiting labour's maximum working hours, has little effect on productivity, unemployment rates, and labour costs. In fact, the SWH has lowered down their work accidents by 70%, and medical expenditure due to labour diseases by 66%; on the other hand, a significant increase of productivity by 46% is achievable through the enforcement of SWH, with labour's personal talents enhanced from spared time from SWH, with birth rates surpassed the death rates since 2000s for more optimistic forecast on reproduction.

For the sustainable future of Hong Kong's economy and public health, as well as the connection to "Belt and Road", please enforce the "real, effective, universal, and sustainable" Standard Working Hours. By the way, swimming straight after meal is hazardous to health, and it could kill you.

Toby Gantzfeld Rauber
Vice-director of project «Dismiss at 20h46»

—A project by Monday Liberation Frontier

3 March 2016