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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 19 October 2016

**Amendments to motion on
“Requiring the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject
at junior secondary level”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 23/16-17 issued on 13 October 2016, five Members (Hon IP Kin-yuen, Hon Mrs Regina IP, Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki and Hon Sixtus LEUNG) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan’s motion on “Requiring the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level” scheduled for the Council meeting of 19 October 2016. 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 five 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 CHEUNG Kwok-kwan to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the five Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon IP Kin-yuen;
 - (ii) Hon Mrs Regina IP;

- (iii) Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim;
 - (iv) Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki; and
 - (v) Hon Sixtus LEUNG;
- (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 CHEUNG Kwok-kwan 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 five Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon IP Kin-yuen to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon IP Kin-yuen's amendment;
 - (i) after Hon IP Kin-yuen's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other four amendments; and
 - (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan'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**.

(Dora WAI)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Requiring the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject
at junior secondary level”
to be held at the Council meeting of 19 October 2016**

1. Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan’s original motion

That the Government has for many years permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject, but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to require the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level and make the subject compulsory, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage to contemporary Chinese history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China’s development in recent years more objectively and rationally from different perspectives.

2. Motion as amended by Hon IP Kin-yuen

~~That the Government has for many years permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject, but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner; in this connection~~ *as the Administration is now conducting consultation on revising the curriculum of the subject of Chinese history at junior secondary level, and the revision of the curriculum contents is of utmost importance to enhancing students’ interests in the subject and upgrading the quality of teaching*, this Council urges *that* the Government to ~~require the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level and make the subject compulsory, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage to contemporary Chinese history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China’s development in recent years more objectively and rationally~~

~~from different perspectives~~ *should, while conducting consultation, strictly uphold the principle of professionalism in education, comprehensively seek the views of schools and frontline teachers, and develop specialized teaching, so as to strengthen the effectiveness of teaching and learning; moreover, the Government should require the inclusion of Chinese history as compulsory content in the junior secondary curriculum, and ensure that regardless of whether Chinese history is taught as an independent subject or in other modes (e.g. by making reference to schools in the Mainland and Taiwan which cover Chinese history and world history in the curriculum contents of the subject of History), schools must designate sufficient teaching hours for the curriculum concerned, so as to reflect the status of Chinese history in secondary school education.*

Note: Hon IP Kin-yuen's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon Mrs Regina IP

That *as* the Government has for many years permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject, but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, *and also neglect the importance of teaching Chinese classical works, historical works, philosophical works and belles-lettres as well as other Chinese literary classics*, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner, *and depriving them of adequate opportunities to get to know the broad and profound Chinese culture and establish their sense of identification with and pride in the Chinese culture*; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to require the ~~teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level and make the subject compulsory~~ *subject of Chinese history as an independent and compulsory subject at the entire junior secondary level*, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage to contemporary Chinese history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, *and to strengthen the teaching of Chinese classical works, historical works, philosophical works and belles-lettres as well as other Chinese literary classics*, so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China's development in recent years more *comprehensively*, objectively and rationally ~~from different perspectives~~, *and to gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the long standing and established Chinese culture.*

Note: Hon Mrs Regina IP's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim

That *as* the Government has for many years permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject, ~~but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner; in this connection~~ *so as to enable schools to adopt various modes based on their needs in teaching Chinese history under a more flexible curriculum framework*, this Council urges the Government to ~~require~~ *continue to allow schools to make their own decisions on* the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level ~~and make the subject compulsory, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage to contemporary Chinese history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland~~ *or the teaching of Chinese history and other humanities subjects as a combined subject, and to continue to improve and promote the efforts of schools to develop teaching modes which combine Chinese history with other humanities subjects*, so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China's development in recent years ~~more objectively and rationally~~ *Chinese history with a critical, objective and rational mindset* from different perspectives.

Note: Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

That, *since the reform of the secondary school curriculum in 2001*, the Government has ~~for many years~~ permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject, but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to require the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level and make the subject compulsory, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage *based on historical facts* to contemporary Chinese history, *including political incidents after 1949, such as the anti-rightist movement, the Cultural Revolution, the Tiananmen incident on 5 April, the 4 June incident, the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Mr LIU Xiaobo and the Wukan Village incident, etc.*, and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, *including the 1967 riots, the annual*

march on 1 July, the Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on Issues Relating to the Selection of the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region by Universal Suffrage and on the Method for Forming the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in the Year 2016 adopted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on 31 August 2014 and the Umbrella Movement, etc., so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China's development in recent years more objectively and rationally from different perspectives.

Note: Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon Sixtus LEUNG

That the Government ~~has for many years permitted schools to teach Chinese history and world history or other humanities subjects at junior secondary level as a combined subject~~ *made Chinese history a compulsory course in 2001 and required that the course must account for about 5% of the teaching hours (i.e. approximately two teaching periods per week)*, but the contents of the curriculum make scanty mention of Hong Kong history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland *China in the past*, rendering the younger generation unable to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation *true history of Hong Kong and China* in a correct, comprehensive and systematic manner; *since the transfer of sovereignty over Hong Kong, the Government has for many years used Chinese history education as a means of instilling in students the need for them to 'establish a sense of identification and belonging to the Chinese nation and the country', Chinese history education has become Chinese national education based on one-way inculcation; only genuine Chinese history education can enable students to objectively get to know the sorrowful and true facts of history;* in this connection, this Council urges the Government to ~~require the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level and make the subject compulsory~~ *conduct extensive consultation on revising the Chinese history curriculum at junior secondary level*, and to expand the scope of the curriculum concerned to give more coverage to contemporary Chinese history and the interactive relationship between Hong Kong and the Mainland, so as to enable students to get to know the development process of the Chinese nation and China's development in recent years more objectively and rationally from different perspectives, *so as to enable students to gain a comprehensive knowledge of the historical incidents that either have far-reaching impacts on Hong Kong or fully reflect the Hong Kong-China relationship (e.g. the massacre at Tai Kai Shan in Song Dynasty; the evacuation order in Qing Dynasty; the influx of Chinese people who wanted to flee the wars in China*

after the inception of Hong Kong in 1842; the history of Chinese refugees fleeing from the tyranny and hunger in China to Hong Kong in search for food and freedom after the Communist Party of China established its regime in 1949; the riots in Hong Kong in 1967; the history on China's rejection of the 'three-legged stool' proposal in 1984, which deprived Hong Kong people of the chance to participate in the negotiations on the future of Hong Kong; the 4 June incident in 1989, which triggered massive emigration from Hong Kong); this Council also urges the Government to review the objective of Chinese history syllabus at junior secondary level to encourage schools to adopt a multi-perspective, objective and impartial approach to educate students interactively, so as to increase their historical knowledge and their awareness of the merits and drawbacks of different historical standpoints, enhance their thinking skills and enable them to learn how to use historical materials critically.

Note: Hon Sixtus LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.