立法會 Legislative Council

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 24 January 2017

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 8 February 2017

Motion on "Expeditiously conducting a comprehensive review of the Government's service outsourcing system"

Hon LUK Chung-hung has given notice to move the attached motion on "Expeditiously conducting a comprehensive review of the Government's service outsourcing system" at the Council meeting of 8 February 2017. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

> (Dora WAI) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on "Expeditiously conducting a comprehensive review of the Government's service outsourcing system" to be moved by Hon LUK Chung-hung at the Council meeting of 8 February 2017

Wording of the Motion

That the governance philosophy of the Hong Kong Government has all along been influenced by neo-liberalism; since the 1990s, the Government has been gradually outsourcing public services such as cleaning and security; in recent years, the scope of outsourced services has become even more extensive, covering areas such as information technology, plant and equipment maintenance, building and property management, with a significant increase in the number of outsourced service contracts; given that many public and private organizations have followed the Government's practice of outsourcing services, employees of outsourced service contractors have seen their remuneration suppressed, employment rights and benefits exploited, and employment stability undermined over the years, therefore, service outsourcing is the culprit causing in-work poverty and the disparity between the rich and the poor in Hong Kong; although the Government has proposed improvement measures to the service outsourcing system, which include amending the standard employment contract, improving the marking scheme for assessing tenders for contracts, and imposing a requirement last year that all departments must consider the wage levels to be offered to employees by tenderers when inviting tenders for outsourced services, these measures are only patchy fixes which cannot reverse the plights of 'low wages, little benefits and a lack of job security' faced by employees of outsourced services; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to conduct a comprehensive review of the service outsourcing system, which includes:

- (1) requiring tenderers to offer to employees wage levels higher than the statutory minimum wage or to set the wage levels according to the median wage of the relevant industries;
- (2) strictly enforcing the demerit point system for outsourcing services so that severe punishments will be imposed on outsourced service contractors in breach of labour legislation or safety requirements;

- (3) examining and improving the standard employment contract to eradicate exploitation of employees' rights and benefits by outsourced service contractors, such as evasion of making severance payment; and
- (4) narrowing the scope and scale of service outsourcing, and recruiting employees on civil service agreement terms to fill positions with long-term service needs.