

立法會
Legislative Council

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 16 June 2017

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 28 June 2017

**Motion on
“Establishing a universal retirement protection system”**

Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung has given notice to move the attached motion on “Establishing a universal retirement protection system” at the Council meeting of 28 June 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
“Establishing a universal retirement protection system”
to be moved by Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
at the Council meeting of 28 June 2017**

Wording of the Motion

That according to the information of the Census and Statistics Department, the Gini Coefficient in 2016 was 0.539, reflecting the severity of the disparity between the rich and the poor; the Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report 2015 released by the Commission on Poverty last year pointed out that the number of elderly people of Hong Kong living in poverty rose continuously, reaching 300 000 in 2015, indicating that the social security system introduced by the Government for the elderly was ineffective and full of flaws and loopholes; the assistance provided to the elderly under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme has long been a subject of criticism, while the Mandatory Provident Fund (‘MPF’) schemes have offered no protection to over 600 000 family carers, and public annuities proposed by the Government are merely investment products, the risks of which will be solely borne by individuals; after the study of the retirement protection system earlier on, the consultancy team led by Professor Nelson CHOW proposed the establishment of a non-means-tested universal Demo-grant; a public consultation on retirement protection conducted by the Government was concluded last year, and various opinion surveys and public consultation forums indicated that most members of the public supported the establishment of a non-means-tested universal retirement protection system with tripartite contributions from employees, employers and the Government and funded by higher profits tax levied on consortia, but the Government has all along evaded the follow-up actions of this proposal; in order to protect the retirement life of members of the public, this Council urges the Government to:

- (1) implement the establishment of a non-means-tested universal retirement protection system with uniform payment, and the new-term Government should respond to this proposal in its first policy address; set up an inter-departmental committee led by the Chief Secretary for Administration and the Financial Secretary, and invite various stakeholders to hold discussions on issues such as the financing options and financial arrangements for universal retirement protection;

- (2) increase the provision of \$50 billion mentioned in the 2015-2016 Budget for retirement protection for the elderly to \$100 billion, to be used as start-up funds for the establishment of a universal retirement protection system, and ensure that the provision will not be used to optimize the Old Age Living Allowance or offset severance payments and long service payments;
- (3) make improvements to the MPF system, including abolishing the arrangement of using the accrued benefits derived from employers' MPF contributions to offset severance payments and long service payments, while ensuring that employees' existing severance payment and long service payment benefits will not be reduced; and
- (4) make public the estimates of expenditure on various means-tested elderly assistance schemes to be fully funded by the Government over the next 50 years, including the Higher Old Age Living Allowance, Old Age Living Allowance, Old Age Allowance, and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance.