

(Translation)

**Council meeting of 23 June 2021**

**Hon YIU Si-wing's motion on  
"Providing support for hard-hit industries affected by the epidemic"**

**Motion as amended by Hon Frankie YICK**

That, since the occurrence of 'black-clad violence' incidents in Hong Kong in the latter half of 2019, the number of visitor arrivals to Hong Kong has dropped significantly, resulting in a severe hit on Hong Kong's economy; with the subsequent outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 epidemic, the Government has, over the past year or so, implemented the 'No-gathering Order' and immigration quarantine measures to cope with the epidemic, nonetheless, Hong Kong's economy has been dealt a further severe blow as a result; the Government has launched a series of measures to boost the economy which have achieved initial results; according to the latest figures released by the Census and Statistics Department, the overall unemployment rate in Hong Kong has dropped; but as the prevailing epidemic has yet to be brought under control, and the date for the resumption of cross-border travel remains uncertain, many hard-hit industries have been struggling to survive, and the pace of Hong Kong's economic recovery has also turned sluggish; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to allocate additional resources to continuously support the hard-hit industries affected by the epidemic; the relevant measures include:

- (1) collecting and analysing statistics for assessing the impact of the epidemic on individual industries, defining the industries profoundly affected by the epidemic as 'hard-hit industries', for example, tourism and related industries, exhibition industry, cross-boundary passenger service sector, catering industry (e.g. suppliers of lunch boxes for schools), and such industries as bars, karaoke, nightclubs, mahjong parlours, and live music performance, and seriously assess the short-, medium- and long-term impact of the shrinkage of hard-hit industries on Hong Kong's economy;
- (2) allocating additional resources for assisting stakeholders and practitioners of hard-hit industries in tiding over the difficult times, and launching a new round of measures to support enterprises and safeguard jobs for hard-hit industries;

- (3) providing extra support for tourism and related industries to prevent them from shrinking or even declining; and
- (4) providing a 'business resumption allowance' for the cross-boundary passenger service sector which still has zero income, so that the sector can prepare for business resumption, including inspecting and repairing conveyances which have been left idle for a long time to ensure that they can still operate safely upon the resumption of cross-border travel.