

LETTERHEAD OF HONG KONG RETAIL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

CB(1)643/00-01(26)

26 February 2001

Mr Andy Lau
Clerk to Bills Committee on
Hong Kong Tourist Association (Amendment) Bill 2001
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

By Fax: 2121 0420

Dear Andy

HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2001

I refer to our earlier telephone conversation and thank you again for inviting our Association to comment on the captioned subject.

Please find below our comments as follows:

Our Association agrees in principle the proposed composition of the new Hong Kong Tourism Board. However, given the importance of the retail sector as a major component of the overall tourism industry, both in terms of its revenue contribution, tourist spending and patronage, and its large labour force, we believe it is more justifiable to have **2 seats of representation from the retail industry**. May we also suggest that one of such seats be automatically given to the Chairman of the Hong Kong Retail Management Association (HKRMA) or alternatively, for HKRMA to designate a representative.

The Hong Kong Retail Management Association (HKRMA) is the major association representing Hong Kong's retail industry. The Association's current membership represents over 500 major retail chains covering more than 5,000 retail outlets and employing about two-thirds of the total retail workforce in Hong Kong. Member organizations are engaged in various types of retail business ranging from department stores to supermarkets, convenience stores, drug stores, food, fashion and accessories, and specialty stores as well as suppliers, wholesalers and industry related service organizations. With the Association's membership base and expertise from our member companies, we believe that we could effectively represent the interests and needs of the retail industry.

On a separate note, we suggest that perhaps two seats should also be given to the restaurant and catering sector which we believe also plays an important role in the overall shopping and dining experience of tourists.

I hope the above comments will be useful in assisting the Government's review on the subject.

In the meantime, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 2866 8311. A copy of our Association's year book and newsletter is also attached for your reference.

Yours sincerely,

Anita Bagaman (Miss)
Executive Director

c.c. Mrs Selina Chow, Legislative Councillor, Wholesale & Retail.
Mr Howard Young, JP, Chairman of Bills Committee on Hong Kong Tourist Association (Amendment) Bill 2001.