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18 February 2002

Clerk to Bills Committee on Karaoke Establishments Bill Legislative Council Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Hong Kong (Attn: Mrs Percy MA)

Dear Mrs MA,

Bills Committee on Karaoke Establishments Bill

Thank you for your letter of 11 February 2002 enclosing the letter dated 7 February 2002 from the Karaoke Requirements Concern Group (the Concern Group's letter).

All the issues raised in the Concern Group's letter have already been dealt with by the various Administration's responses or at Bills Committee meetings. We do not want to repeat ourselves by making a point-by-point response. However we wish to stress that the proposed Bill aims to improve the fire and building safety in karaoke establishments. As a result of deliberations by the Bills Committee, we believe a good balance will be maintained between effective regulatory control and facilitation in general. The early implementation of the licensing regime will enhance public safety which will be beneficial to the community at large.

Yours sincerely,