

**Extract of the draft minutes of the House Committee meeting  
held on 7 March 2003**

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**V. Business for the Council meeting on 19 March 2003**

**(d) Government motions**

**(ii) Proposed resolution to be moved by the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance**

(Wording of the proposed resolution issued vide LC Paper No. CB(3) 428/02-03 dated 27 February 2003.)

*(LC Paper No. LS 70/02-03)*

**(iii) Proposed resolution to be moved by the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour under the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance**

(Wording of the proposed resolution issued vide LC Paper No. CB(3) 427/02-03 dated 27 February 2003.)

*(LC Paper No. LS 71/02-03)*

44. The Legal Adviser said that the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour (SEDL) had given notices to move the above two proposed resolutions to seek the Council's approval to amend the Third Schedule of the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO) to increase the amount of the daily rates of medical expenses that an employer has to pay under the Third Schedule, and to amend Part I of the Second Schedule to the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance (PCO) to increase the amount of medical expenses payable under the relevant provisions.

45. The Legal Adviser explained that the Administration proposed to revise the daily rates of medical expenses payable to persons entitled to compensation under ECO and PCO, as the fee structure for public health care services had recently been revised and the new increased fees would be effective from 1 April 2003. The Legal Adviser pointed out that the Administration intended to appoint 1 April 2003 as the date on which the amendments would come into operation.

46. The Legal Adviser informed Members that when the Panel on Manpower was briefed on the proposed amendments on 20 February 2003,

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some members had expressed concern about the implications of the proposals on the premium level of employees' compensation insurance. The Legal Adviser added that the Administration had advised members that details of changes to the premium level of employees' compensation insurance had yet to be worked out.

47. The Chairman said that as the proposals would affect a large number of employers and employees, Members might wish to examine the implications of the proposals on the premium level of employees' compensation insurance.

48. The Chairman proposed that a subcommittee be formed to study the two proposed resolutions. Members agreed. The following Members agreed to join : Mr Kenneth TING, Dr LAW Chi-kwong, Mr Henry WU and Mr Tommy CHEUNG.

49. The Chairman said that SEDL would be asked to withdraw his notices for moving the two proposed resolutions at the Council meeting on 19 March 2003.

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