

立法會
Legislative Council

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Date : 2 March 2004

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 17 March 2004

Proposed resolution under the Public Finance Ordinance

I forward for Members' consideration a proposed resolution which the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury will move at the Council meeting of 17 March 2004 under the Public Finance Ordinance. The President has directed that "it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in" on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The speech, in both English and Chinese versions, which the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury will deliver when moving the proposed resolution, is also attached.

(Ray CHAN)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE

RESOLUTION

(Under section 7(1) of the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap. 2))

RESOLVED that –

1. Authority is hereby given for a sum not exceeding \$83,602,440,000 to be charged on the general revenue for expenditure on the services of the Government in respect of the financial year commencing on 1 April 2004.
2. Subject to this Resolution, the sum so charged may be expended against the heads of expenditure as shown in the Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05 laid before the Legislative Council on 10 March 2004 or, where the Estimates are changed under the provisions of the Public Finance Ordinance (Cap. 2) as applied by section 7(2) of that Ordinance, as shown in the Estimates as so changed.
3. Expenditure in respect of any head of expenditure shall not exceed the aggregate of the amounts authorized by paragraph 4 to be expended in respect of the subheads in that head of expenditure.

4. Expenditure in respect of each subhead in a head of expenditure shall not exceed –

(a) in the case of an Operating Account Recurrent subhead of expenditure, an amount equivalent to –

(i) except where the subhead is listed in the Schedule to this Resolution, 20% of the provision shown in the Estimates in respect of that subhead;

(ii) where the subhead is listed in the Schedule to this Resolution, the percentage of the provision shown in the Estimates in respect of that subhead that is specified in the Schedule in relation to that subhead; and

(b) in the case of an Operating Account Non-Recurrent subhead of expenditure or Capital Account subhead of expenditure, an amount equivalent to 100% of the provision shown in the Estimates in respect of that subhead,

or such other amount, not exceeding an amount equivalent to 100% of the provision shown in the Estimates in respect of that subhead, as may in any case be approved by the Financial Secretary.

SCHEDULE

[para. 4]

Percentage of
provision shown in
Estimates

	Head of Expenditure		Subhead	
28	Civil Aviation Department	170	Airport insurance	100
46	General Expenses of the Civil Service	013	Personal allowances	40
90	Labour Department	280	Contribution to the Occupational Safety and Health Council	30
		295	Contribution to the Occupational Deafness Compensation Board	30
106	Miscellaneous Services	163	Write-offs	50
		192	Refunds of revenue	100
		284	Compensation	30
120	Pensions	021	Ex gratia pensions, awards, allowances and increases	50
		026	Employees' compensation, injury, incapacity and death related payments and expenses	50
170	Social Welfare Department	176	Criminal and law enforcement injuries compensation	60
		177	Emergency relief	100
		179	Comprehensive social security assistance scheme	25
		180	Social security allowance scheme	25
		187	Agents' commission and expenses	100

**SPEECH BY THE SECRETARY FOR
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND THE TREASURY
MOVING THE VOTE ON ACCOUNT RESOLUTION
IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ON 17 MARCH 2004**

Madam President,

I move the motion standing in my name in the Agenda.

2. The purpose of this motion is to seek funds on account to enable the Government to carry on existing services between the start of the financial year on 1 April 2004 and the enactment of the Appropriation Ordinance. This follows the procedure long established in this Council.

3. We have determined the funds on account sought under each subhead in accordance with paragraph four of the resolution, by reference to percentages of the provision shown in the 2004–05 Estimates of Expenditure. If the Estimates are changed by the Finance Committee or officers under delegated powers, the provision to which the percentages are applied will also change accordingly. Thus the provision on account under each head is not constant but may vary, with every increase being matched by an equal decrease. The initial provision on account under each head is shown in the footnote to this speech. The aggregate total under all heads is fixed at \$83,602,440,000 and cannot be exceeded without the approval of this Council.

4. The resolution also enables the Financial Secretary to vary the funds on account in respect of any subhead, provided that these variations do not cause an excess over the amount of provision entered for that subhead in the 2004–05 Estimates of Expenditure or an excess over the amount of funds on account for the relevant head.

5. The Financial Secretary will issue a vote on account warrant to the Director of Accounting Services, authorising him to make payments up to the amount specified in this motion and in accordance with its conditions. The vote on account will be subsumed upon the enactment of the Appropriation Ordinance, and the general warrant issued after the enactment of the Appropriation Ordinance will replace the vote on account warrant.

6. Madam President, I beg to move.

Footnote

Remarks : Details will be given after the Appropriation Bill 2004 is gazetted on 10.3.2004.