

6A, 1 Earl Street,
Kowloon

26th September, 2005

The Chairman,
Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2005,
Legislative Council, HKSAR

Dear Sir,

I would like to submit my views regarding the captioned Bill.

Numerous research and studies have concluded that second hand smoke is hazardous to a person's health. Many countries worldwide have adopted the law that forbids smoking in "enclosed areas", including but not limited to restaurants, business offices and other places.

The proposed amendment to the Bill would serve to protect non-smokers from the danger of developing diseases such as cancer and other related ailments. This would also protect non-smokers from any nuisance related to smoking in public and private enclosed areas.

Therefore, I strongly urge the legislature to pass this Bill without delay. Failure to do so would endanger the lives of innocent parties.

Further, I would like to raise the question of whether the Government's officials responsible for public health as well as the HKSAR, would be liable to litigation in the event that a person suffers diseases or ailments due to inhaling of second hand smoke in enclosed areas, due to lack of prompt action to be take by the health officials or the HKSAR to prevent such irresponsible acts.

Thank you for accepting my submission. I also look forward to your earliest reply regarding the question raised regarding liability. I also would like to receive an update as regards the progress of passing of the Bill.

Sincerely,



Wong Kwok Wai