



HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION

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Your Ref: CB2/BC/1/07

20 February 2008

Mrs. Percy Ma
Clerk to Bills Committee
Bills Committee on Legislative Council
(Amendment) Bill 2007
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F Citibank Tower, 3 Garden Road
Hong Kong.

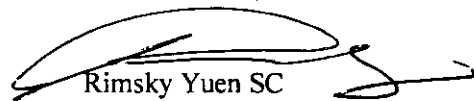
Dear *Percy*,

Re: Bills Committee on Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill 2007

I refer to our letter dated 15 February 2008 enclosing the Hong Kong Bar Association's comments on the question raised by some members of the Bill Committee on expansion of the electorate of functional constituencies. As you appreciate from the letter, the comments were to be ratified by the meeting of the Bar Council on 19 February 2008.

Please be informed that the Bar Council in the meeting on 19 February 2008 considered that paragraph 16 of the comments should be clarified. While the Bar Council considers that any expansion of the electorate of functional constituencies by a locally enacted electoral law should not attempt to deal with an issue coming within the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 1 of Annex II of the Basic Law of the HKSAR, the Bar Council wishes to clarify that the point put in that paragraph, namely that the electorate of a functional constituency should not be expanded so that the delimitation of the sector(s) concerned ceases to be functional, whether as understood historically or otherwise, is only put by way of a possible argument that may be raised.

Yours Sincerely,


Rimsky Yuen SC
Chairman

香港大律師公會

香港金鐘道三十八號高等法院低層二樓

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