(Translation)

Motion on "Legislating for the provision of baby-sitting rooms" moved by Hon LEE Wing-tat at the Legislative Council meeting of Wednesday, 12 December 2007

Motion as amended by Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee and Dr Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long

"That, as the number of breastfeeding women in Hong Kong is on the rise, but government and public sector buildings, large shopping centres and restaurants in Hong Kong at present generally do not provide baby-sitting rooms, thus causing great inconvenience to women who are breastfeeding, and resulting in some mothers having to breastfeed in toilets, which may affect the health of the babies, this Council urges the Government to face up to women's right to breastfeed, to study introducing or amending legislation to make the provision of baby-sitting rooms and breastfeeding facilities a mandatory requirement for new and existing government and public sector buildings, immigration control points, parks, cultural and leisure facilities, public bathing beaches with lifeguards, stations of the mass transit systems, large shopping centres, department stores and large restaurants, and to enhance public awareness of the breastfeeding culture, thereby arousing public concern and support for the provision of baby-sitting rooms; the Government should also study introducing or amending legislation to make the provision of baby-sitting rooms and breastfeeding facilities a mandatory requirement for workplaces, so as to enable more women to breastfeed after childbirth and safeguard babies' right to be breastfed."