CB(1)24/09-10(02)



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政府水務專業人員協會

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Our Ref. GWPA/0910/003

13 October 2009

To: Legislative Council Secretariat

(Attn: Ms. Sarah YUEN)

Dear Ms. YUEN.

Wanchai, Hong Kong

## Re: Bills Committee on Public Officers Pay Adjustment Bill

In response to your letter ref. CB1/BC/9/08 dated 7.10.2009, I would like to submit the following views on behalf of the Government Waterworks Professionals Association (GWPA).

As correctly pointed out by Ir Dr the Honourable Raymond HO Chung-tai, representative of the Engineering Functional Constituency, the differential treatments on pay cut given to different groups of civil servants was unfair and not conducive to the harmonious working relationship. The morale of civil servants will also be seriously damaged.

The economy is not as bad as the Government has purported. However, if the Government implements a pay cut, the private sector will follow suit. Consequently, spending sentiment will be seriously affected, causing a vicious circle. Furthermore, four members of the Pay Trend Survey Committee did not agree to the results. A pay cut of 5.38% is unprecedented, and the methodology in its derivation is disputable. The Government, as the largest employer in Hong Kong, should honor the contracts with civil servants. The frequent law enactment to alter the term of services would undermine the Government's internal governance.

The Government Waterworks Professionals Association objects to the pay cut of 5.38% as put forward in the Public Officers Pay Adjustment Bill.

Yours faithfully,

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(LEUNG Wai Kwong) Chairman, GWPA

c.c.

Ir Dr the Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, SBS, MBE, S. B. St. J., JP