

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 773/10-11

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Tel : 2869 9205

Date : 20 May 2011

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 25 May 2011

**Proposed amendments to motion on
“Safeguarding freedom of the press and the right to expression”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 738/10-11 issued on 12 May 2011, four Members (Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, Hon LEE Cheuk-yan, Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong, and Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan’s motion on “Safeguarding freedom of the press and the right to expression” scheduled for the Council meeting of 25 May 2011. As directed by the President, the respective proposed amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon Cyd HO to speak and move her motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Cyd HO’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the four Members, who intend to move amendments, to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Hon Emily LAU;
 - (ii) Hon LEE Cheuk-yan;

- (iii) Dr Hon Philip WONG; and
- (iv) Hon Alan LEONG;
- (d) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
- (f) the President gives leave to Hon Cyd HO to speak for the second time on the amendments;
- (g) the President calls upon the designated public officer(s) again to speak;
- (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon Emily LAU to move her amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon Emily LAU's amendment;
- (i) after Hon Emily LAU's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other three amendments; and
- (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Cyd HO to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Cyd HO's motion, or her motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' ease of reference, the terms of the original motion and of the motion, if amended, are set out in the **Appendix**.

(Mrs Justina LAM)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Safeguarding freedom of the press and
the right to expression”
to be held at the Legislative Council meeting
of Wednesday, 25 May 2011**

1. Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan’s original motion

That this Council urges the authorities to safeguard freedom of the press and the right to expression.

2. Motion as amended by Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing

That ~~this Council urges the authorities to~~ *in April this year, the advertising agency of the MTR Corporation Limited (‘MTRCL’) issued a letter to various press media in an attempt to resort to the means of cancelling advertisements so as to reduce negative news reports on MTRCL; this Council considers that MTRCL, in so doing, blatantly intervenes in editorial independence and seriously undermines freedom of the press, and should be strongly condemned; as the major shareholder of MTRCL, the SAR Government should bear the responsibility and thoroughly investigate the aforesaid incident, so as to* safeguard freedom of the press and the right to expression.

Note: Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

That ~~this Council,~~ *given that the Government treats the various mass media differently on the basis of close and distant relationships, frequently releasing exclusive information on a selective basis to ‘friendly’ media in an attempt to influence their editorial stance, and that recently, the Government repeatedly uses contravention of the Places of Public Entertainment Ordinance as an excuse for suppressing people’s freedom of expression, this Council expresses deep disappointment and* urges the authorities to safeguard freedom of the press and the right to expression.

Note: Hon LEE Cheuk-yan’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong

That this Council urges the authorities *SAR Government to continue* to safeguard freedom of the press and the right to expression *in accordance with the Basic Law and the principle of ‘one country, two systems’*.

Note: Dr Hon Philip WONG Yu-hong’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit

That this Council urges the authorities to safeguard freedom of the press and ~~the~~ *abide by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Basic Law and the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance, so as to protect people’s* right to expression *in the form of processions and assemblies, etc..*

Note: Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.