

LC Paper No. CB(3) 612/11-12

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Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 2 April 2012

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 18 April 2012

Motion on "Perfecting Hong Kong's housing policy"

Hon WONG Kwok-kin has given notice to move the attached motion on "Perfecting Hong Kong's housing policy" at the Council meeting of 18 April 2012. The President has directed that "it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in" on the Agenda of the Council.

> (Mrs Justina LAM) for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

Motion on "Perfecting Hong Kong's housing policy" to be moved by Hon WONG Kwok-kin at the Council meeting of 18 April 2012

Wording of the Motion

That, although the Government already resumed the construction of Home Ownership Scheme ('HOS') flats and increased land supply last year in response to strong public demand, the supply and prices of residential units in Hong Kong still continue to fluctuate, with the housing issue remaining people's greatest concern and grass-root people continuing to face various housing difficulties; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to ensure the healthy and stable development of the property market and formulate a long-term housing policy, so as to respond to the housing demand of various strata and perfect the housing ladder and mobility in Hong Kong; the relevant measures should include:

- (a) to increase the existing annual public rental housing ('PRH') production to 30 000 units or more for expediting the allocation of units to the existing 160 000-plus applicants on the Waiting List to two years, so as to meet grass-root people's demand for PRH;
- (b) to comprehensively review the Quota and Points System for non-elderly one-person applicants, and study the adoption of more effective measures to assist singletons with actual housing need;
- (c) to study the introduction of sandwich-class PRH to enable those households or persons with incomes slightly above the PRH eligibility criteria but without the ability to enter the private residential property market to apply for renting such units subject to certain conditions and time limits, so as to alleviate their rental pressure;
- (d) to review the allocation and eligibility criteria of PRH, with a view to facilitating and encouraging young family members to live with their elderly family members and to care for them;
- (e) to launch a large-scale territory-wide inspection of flat units sub-divided into separate units (commonly known as 'sub-divided units') and take enforcement actions against units contravening the Buildings Ordinance, so as to protect the safety of residents; at the same

time, study the expeditious introduction of legislative control on 'sub-divided units', and conduct a general survey and a study on residents of 'sub-divided units', cubicles and cage homes, so as to facilitate the formulation of housing measures to assist these people;

- (f) to review the various eligibility criteria and conditions relating to the purchase and turnover of HOS flats, including the ratio of green forms to white forms in respect of new HOS flats in the future, the arrangements for premium payment for new and old HOS flats, and allowing eligible families to purchase HOS flats in the secondary market without having to pay the premium, so as to expedite the turnover of HOS flats and facilitate people's home acquisition through this channel;
- (g) to formulate long-term and sustainable development strategies for the supply of flats, site identification and financial commitment under various sandwich-class housing projects and HOS projects, so as to prevent such projects being suspended in the end due to policy changes or financial factors, etc.;
- (h) in times of short supply of public housing and subsidized housing, to provide rental assistance and tax concessions to needy applicants waiting for PRH allocation or sandwich-class people eligible for subsidized housing, so as to alleviate their housing burden amid exorbitant rents; and
- (i) to closely monitor the impact of the economic environment and external factors on the private residential property market and people's burden of home mortgages, and timely adjust the relevant policies to prevent drastic fluctuations in the private residential property market.