

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 8 May 2013**

**Amendments to motion on  
“Maintaining a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 516/12-13 issued on 24 April 2013, six Members (Hon TANG Ka-piu, Hon Michael TIEN, Hon IP Kin-yuen, Hon WU Chi-wai, Hon YIU Si-wing and Hon Charles Peter MOK) have respectively given notices of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Jeffrey LAM’s motion on “Maintaining a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong” scheduled for the Council meeting of 8 May 2013. As directed by the President, the respective 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 Jeffrey LAM to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Jeffrey LAM’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the six Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
  - (i) Hon TANG Ka-piu;

- (ii) Hon Michael TIEN;
  - (iii) Hon IP Kin-yuen;
  - (iv) Hon WU Chi-wai;
  - (v) Hon YIU Si-wing; and
  - (vi) Hon Charles Peter MOK;
- (d) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak;
  - (e) the President invites other Members to speak;
  - (f) the President gives leave to Hon Jeffrey LAM to speak for the second time on the amendments;
  - (g) the President calls upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
  - (h) in accordance with Rule 34(5) of the Rules of Procedure, the President has decided that he will call upon the six Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Hon TANG Ka-piu to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment;
  - (i) after Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment has been voted upon, the President deals with the other five amendments; and
  - (j) after all amendments have been dealt with, the President calls upon Hon Jeffrey LAM to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Jeffrey LAM's motion, or his 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**.

(Odelia LEUNG)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on  
“Maintaining a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong”  
to be held at the Council meeting of 8 May 2013**

**1. Hon Jeffrey LAM’s original motion**

That, given the slow recovery of the global economy, this Council urges the Government to adopt proactive policy measures to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong and devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises.

**2. Motion as amended by Hon TANG Ka-piu**

That, ~~given~~ *under the broad environment of economic globalization*, the slow recovery of the global economy *has certain impacts on Hong Kong’s economy, and the unemployment rate in Hong Kong has started to rebound; in this connection*, this Council urges the Government to adopt proactive policy measures *and make good use of local human resources* to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong ~~and~~; *the relevant measures should include:*

- (1) *to review the supply of manpower resources in various industries, and devote resources to training the relevant talents, enable local workers to play to their strengths and use what they have learnt and avoid labour importation, and encourage enterprises to employ disadvantaged people (e.g. South Asians, the middle-aged and persons with disabilities), so as to make good use of the local labour force, enabling local employees to share the fruits of economic development and employers to have adequate labour supply, thus creating a win-win situation for employers and workers;*
- (2) *to improve the working conditions and environment, e.g. setting standard working hours and standardizing the number of statutory holidays and public holidays, so as to assist enterprises in retaining talents through upgrading the quality of work life for employees;*
- (3) *to study the alleviation of the burden of transport expenses on workers working across districts, so that enterprises can recruit sufficient manpower more easily;*

- (4) *to reduce rental costs for enterprises, and alleviate their business difficulties; and*
- (5) *to devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises.*

Note: Hon TANG Ka-piu's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### **3. Motion as amended by Hon Michael TIEN**

That, ~~given~~ *with the slow recovery of the global economy and rapid ageing of Hong Kong's population, the welfare spending is bound to increase significantly, and Hong Kong must vigorously expedite its economic development to 'make a bigger cake', the prerequisite of which is to maintain a business-friendly environment for small and medium enterprises ('SMEs');* ~~in this connection,~~ this Council urges the Government to ~~adopt,~~ *apart from adopting* proactive policy measures ~~to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong and devote~~ *and devoting* more resources to assist ~~small and medium enterprises~~ *SMEs, make strenuous efforts to mitigate the increasingly tense labour relations in Hong Kong in recent years, and ensure employees not only having reasonable protection for their rights and interests but also fully recognizing the impacts of various labour policies and measures (e.g. reviewing the minimum wage level and conducting studies on the regulation of working hours and the right to collective bargaining, etc.) on the business environment of SMEs, in an endeavor to achieving mutual understanding and a win-win situation for both sides, with Hong Kong's economy being also developed in a consistently rapid way.*

Note: Hon Michael TIEN's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

### **4. Motion as amended by Hon IP Kin-yuen**

That, ~~high-quality human resources have all along been pivotal to Hong Kong's economic development;~~ given the slow recovery of the global economy, this Council urges the Government to adopt proactive policy measures to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong, *and devote resources to enhance educational and manpower training, implement 15-year free education and small-class teaching in secondary schools, strengthen vocational education and training, and increase the numbers of publicly-funded sub-degree programme places, publicly-funded bachelor's degree programme places and local students admitted to postgraduate*

*programmes in graduate schools of universities, so as to nurture local talents to provide manpower resources for the sustainable development of pillar industries and the diversified development of the economy;* and devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises.

Note: Hon IP Kin-yuen's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## **5. Motion as amended by Hon WU Chi-wai**

That, ~~given the slow recovery of~~ *as Hong Kong's business environment is closely related to the global economy, but the global economy has been recovering slowly,* this Council urges the Government to adopt proactive policy measures to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong and devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises; *specific measures include:*

- (1) *to construct Container Terminal 10, and pass it to a new operator to undertake the operation, so as to increase the competition among container terminals for lowering terminal handling charges;*
- (2) *to fully open up the fifth freedom traffic rights on a reciprocal basis, enabling more overseas flights to carry passengers and freight in Hong Kong, so as to lower transport fees;*
- (3) *to expeditiously implement the Competition Ordinance, lift the exemptions for statutory bodies from the Competition Ordinance, and provide adequate resources to the Competition Commission; regularly review the Competition Ordinance, and study whether the Competition Commission should be empowered to examine if any public policy has directly or indirectly created market monopoly, and when an enterprise is found to have taken a large proportion of market shares, to advise the Government on measures for preventing market monopoly, so as to maintain the competition environment of the Hong Kong market, curb monopoly by large consortia, and improve small business operators' room for survival; and*
- (4) *to assist in promoting the overseas sale of local brands and technologies.*

Note: Hon WU Chi-wai's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## 6. Motion as amended by Hon YIU Si-wing

That, given the slow recovery of the global economy, this Council urges the Government *and the various departments to take the initiative* to adopt proactive policy measures to *devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises according to the characteristics of different industries, and* maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong ~~and devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises;~~ *the relevant measures include:*

- (1) *to subsidize small and medium enterprises, so as to motivate the relevant enterprises to make use of information technology;*
- (2) *to increase the expenditure on subsidizing the training of practitioners in industries, so as to raise the professional standards of industries;*
- (3) *to regularly co-ordinate industries of the same kind to jointly organize external promotional activities, and appropriately subsidize such activities; and*
- (4) *to reduce or waive the licence fees for the relevant enterprises of industries with operating difficulties.*

Note: Hon YIU Si-wing's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

## 7. Motion as amended by Hon Charles Peter MOK

That, given the slow recovery of the global economy, this Council urges the Government to adopt proactive policy measures to maintain a business-friendly environment in Hong Kong and devote more resources to assist small and medium enterprises (*especially those in relation to the innovation and technology industries*); *this Council also urges the Government to implement the following measures in three areas, namely market development, capital and talents:*

- (1) *to review and reform the Government's information technology procurement policy, reform the guiding principle that 'the lowest bidder wins' and the requirement for huge amounts of performance bonds, which have all along been criticized by the industry, strengthen the assessment elements of 'local research, original applications' to encourage innovation in its procurement policy, and*

*increase the opportunities for small and medium enterprises to participate in the bidding for the Government's information technology contracts, so as to accumulate more capital and experience for expansion of their enterprise scale;*

- (2) *to open up more Government data and, putting the public interest first, encourage developers to make use of such data at liberty and free of charge, so as to promote the development of more mobile and internet applications conducive to people's livelihood and social-economic activities, so as to foster innovative applications by small and medium enterprises, enhance work efficiency, and create room for developers to identify business opportunities;*
- (3) *through policy support and venture capital funds involving Government investments, to encourage the development of local 'Angel Funds' and venture capital activities, so as to provide local start-up companies with more effective early-stage seed funding; and*
- (4) *to inject capital into and re-activate the Small and Medium Enterprises Training Fund, so that small and medium enterprises may have sufficient resources for training staff and enhancing competitiveness.*

Note: Hon Charles Peter MOK's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.