

**立法會**  
***Legislative Council***

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Tel : 3919 3300

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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

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**Council meeting of 21 May 2014**

**Motion on  
“Returning a happy childhood to students”**

Hon Michael TIEN has given notice to move the attached motion on “Returning a happy childhood to students” at the Council meeting of 21 May 2014. The President has directed that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in on the Agenda of the Council.

(Odelia LEUNG)  
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion on  
“Returning a happy childhood to students”  
to be moved by Hon Michael TIEN  
at the Council meeting of 21 May 2014**

**Wording of the Motion**

That the majority view of society has all along held that ‘pressure leads to progress’; nowadays, there are many books and discussions available at the market about ‘tiger moms and dads’, ‘helicopter parents’ and ‘monster parents’, etc. for boosting children’s learning, but excessive boosting may likely increase pressure on children and dampen their learning interests; the results of a survey conducted by the Programme for International Student Assessment show that some Hong Kong parents excessively intervene in children’s learning and drill them by being over-anxious for results, rendering a decline of children’s motivation to learn and a negative impact on their academic results; quite a number of media reports have also pointed out that some Hong Kong students have emotional problems because of heavy study pressure, and they become easily anxious and have symptoms such as insomnia, loss of appetite and irritability, etc.; all these problems are attributable to the education system which emphasizes solely on examination results; at the stage of kindergarten education, parents have already enrolled their children in many types of interest classes and request them to do dictation and spelling exercises, etc.; at the stage of primary education, students need to participate in the Territory-wide System Assessment, the Internal Assessments for Secondary School Places Allocation purpose that take place at the end of Primary Five and both in mid-year and at the end of Primary Six, and the Pre-Secondary One Hong Kong Attainment Test; at the stage of secondary education, students are faced with a shortage of university places and the ‘die or live’ pressure from the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination; in contrast, the education systems and teaching modes in many advanced places are better able to provide students with room for exploring their interests to enhance their creativity development; in this connection, this Council urges the Administration to:

- (1) assess afresh the pressure and psychological impact of the existing education system on students, and comprehensively review the examination system, the curriculum contents and the mechanism for progression in education;

- (2) enhance parental education to avoid parents from excessively boosting children's learning; and
- (3) enhance the support for school social workers and teachers to facilitate them to early identify whether or not students are under excessive pressure.