

立法會
Legislative Council

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From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 18 March 2015

**Amendments to motion on
“Expanding the ratio of the middle-class population”**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 388/14-15 issued on 23 January 2015, four Members (Prof Hon Joseph LEE, Hon SIN Chung-kai, Hon Kenneth LEUNG and Hon Cyd HO) have respectively given notice of their intention to move separate amendments to Hon Andrew LEUNG’s motion on “Expanding the ratio of the middle-class population” scheduled for the Council meeting of 18 March 2015. 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 the four amendments. To assist Members in debating the motion and the amendments, I set out below the procedure to be followed during the debate:

- (a) the President calls upon Hon Andrew LEUNG to speak and move his motion;
- (b) the President proposes the question on Hon Andrew LEUNG’s motion;
- (c) the President calls upon the four Members who wish to move amendments to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Prof Hon Joseph LEE;

- (ii) Hon SIN Chung-kai;
 - (iii) Hon Kenneth LEUNG; and
 - (iv) Hon Cyd HO;
- (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 Andrew LEUNG 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 four Members to move their respective amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above. The President invites Prof Hon Joseph LEE to move his amendment to the motion, and forthwith proposes and puts to vote the question on Prof Hon Joseph LEE's amendment;
 - (i) after Prof Hon Joseph LEE'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 Andrew LEUNG to reply. Thereafter, the President puts to vote the question on Hon Andrew LEUNG's motion, or his motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' 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
“Expanding the ratio of the middle-class population”
to be held at the Council meeting of 18 March 2015**

1. Hon Andrew LEUNG’s original motion

That this Council urges the SAR Government to formulate feasible policies and measures to increase the opportunities for upward social mobility, thereby expanding the ratio of the middle-class population and enhancing Hong Kong’s competitiveness.

2. Motion as amended by Prof Hon Joseph LEE

That, *given the trend of the dwindling middle-class population in Hong Kong in recent years*, this Council urges the SAR Government to formulate feasible policies and measures to increase the opportunities for upward social mobility, *formulate a widely recognized definition for the middle class and promote diversification of industries, so as to establish a clear career ladder for them and enhance their development potentials*, thereby expanding the ratio of the middle-class population and enhancing Hong Kong’s competitiveness; *at the same time, the SAR Government should formulate policies to assist middle-class people in coping with difficulties, in order to alleviate their burdens*.

Note: Prof Hon Joseph LEE’s amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

3. Motion as amended by Hon SIN Chung-kai

That, *as the Government has disregarded the needs of middle-class people over the years*, this Council urges the SAR Government to formulate feasible policies and measures to increase the opportunities for upward social mobility, thereby expanding the ratio of the middle-class population and enhancing Hong Kong’s competitiveness; *specific measures include*:

- (1) *to raise the various tax allowances, including the basic allowance for individuals, child allowance, married person’s allowance as well as dependent parent allowance, and widen the tax bands for salaries tax and abolish the standard rate for salaries tax, so that members of the*

public pay their salaries tax according to the marginal tax rate, thereby alleviating the tax burden on the middle class;

- (2) *to reintroduce the Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, thereby increasing the opportunities for the middle class to acquire homes;*
- (3) *to uphold local core values and combat corruption, so as to rebuild a society with integrity and fairness for providing the middle class with an environment with fair competition; and*
- (4) *to fully implement the election of the Chief Executive and that of all Members of the Legislative Council by genuine universal suffrage, respect people's equal rights to make nomination, to vote and to stand for election, and develop in the middle class a sense of belonging to Hong Kong.*

Note: Hon SIN Chung-kai's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

4. Motion as amended by Hon Kenneth LEUNG

That, *as the middle class is pivotal in promoting the development of democratic political system and economic development*, this Council urges the SAR Government to formulate feasible policies and measures to increase the opportunities for upward social mobility, thereby expanding the ratio of the middle-class population, *with a view to promoting democratization of Hong Kong's political system* and enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness.

Note: Hon Kenneth LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type*.

5. Motion as amended by Hon Cyd HO

That this Council urges the SAR Government to formulate ~~feasible policies and measures to increase~~ *policies conducive to increasing* the opportunities for upward social mobility *for the young generations in Hong Kong, including improving education and promoting diversified economic development, etc.*, thereby expanding the ratio of the middle-class population ~~and~~, *protecting Hong Kong people's basic human rights and freedom as well as restoring their confidence in the future, thus* enhancing Hong Kong's competitiveness.

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