The Hong Kong Health Education and Health Promotion Foundation (Registered Charitable Organization)

香港健康促進及教育協會

(註冊慈善團體)

Health education

LC Paper No. CB(2)979/16-17(03)

Panel on Health Services Attn: Clerk to Panel on Health Services Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

March 13, 2017

Dear Council Members,

Ref: Immediate Enactment on Amendment of Pictorial Health Warnings

The Health Education and Health Promotion Foundation (HEP) founded in 1999 with a mission of enhancing health education and health promotion through training, education, research and service. One of our objectives is to work collaboratively with other institutions, professional bodies and persons on the health education and health promotion matters. In supporting Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) on her work on strengthening the tobacco control policies through advocating the Government, on behalf of HEP, I have expressed my views on supporting the amendment of pictorial health warnings in the public hearing for the Panel on Health Services on 17 January 2017.

This issue on amendment of pictorial health warnings, including enlarging the pictorial warning to 85% on both surfaces, increasing the warning signs from 6 to 12 and listing the hotline on the package as well, was discussed in the LegCo meetings since 2015 and during the public hearing for the Panel of Health Services in January, more than half of the participants voiced out their support to this amendment and the representatives came from different sectors including healthcare professionals, academics, health promotion and students.

After reviewing the evidence of detrimental effect of tobacco use and the discussion in the previous meetings, our Honorable members of Legislative Council should definitely pass the proposed amendment with no further delay to be accountable to protect health of our population.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

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