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From: Simon Kavanagh <[REDACTED]>

Date: 04/12/2021 03:53PM

Subject: Objection to Redaction of Hong Kong Identity (HKID) card numbers from the Companies Registry

Dear Members of the Legco Financial Affairs Panel,

I am writing to express my objection to your proposal to make changes to the Companies Registry database that will make it much harder to identify accurately directors and officers of Hong Kong limited companies. You should be aiming to make Hong Kong more transparent and leading the way in terms of Environmental and Social Governance, rather than back-tracking to protect wealthy individuals (company directors will be above the HK median income level) and hamper legitimate investigative research, whether by journalists, or by individuals seeking to verify who it is they are doing business with.

I don't object to Directors being able to conceal their Residential Address in the Director's Particulars, but there is no valid reason to prevent people from being able to accurately identify if companies are linked through shared directors or ownership, or if a person who claims to be a director of a company is indeed a director of the company.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Kavanagh

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