

Letterhead of Christine Loh

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6 July 1998

To: Secretary General
Mr. Ricky Fung
Legislative Council

Re: Reimbursement Facility for Legislators

From: Christine Loh

Copy: Hon. Ronald Arculli
Hon. Cyd Ho

Dear Ricky,

I just want to summarize our brief conversation of approximately two weeks ago over the telephone about whether the appropriate committee in the Legislative Council can look into assisting legislators to finance the reimbursement during their terms of office.

It is unfair that legislators have to first pay for the execution of their public duties and then be reimbursed. The reimbursement in effect ties up a not insubstantial amount of money for 2 years since every month out-goings have to be paid for. I have heard from a number of councillors that they have to borrow money from friends. In my case, I have a bank loan of up to HK\$100,000 for this purpose for which interest have to be paid. This also means that I need the interest part to be reclaimable since I am unable to tie-up HK\$100,000 for two years.

The Hon Ronald Arculli asked me to call you immediately to have the item put on the agenda for the committee's next meeting. I look forward to hearing from you when this issue will be addressed.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Loh