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電 話 TEL NO. : 2835 1365

圖文傳真 FAXLINE : 2591 6002

By Fax (2509 9055)

24 March 2004

Ms Doris Chan
Clerk to Panel on Home Affairs
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Ms Chan,

**Public Fund-raising Activities for Non-charitable Purposes
under s. 4(17) of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228)**

According to section 4(17) of the Summary Offences Ordinance (Cap. 228), any person who carries out fund-raising activities for non-charitable purposes in a public place shall apply for a permit from the Secretary for Home Affairs. To ensure a fair distribution of venues, dates and frequency of fund-raising among all potential applicants, it is our internal practice that no more than 4 fund-raising days should be allocated to the same applicant in a 6-month period (i.e. from April to September and from October to March of the next year).

The Legislative Council election will be held in September. We appreciate that there may be a need for some candidates and political parties to raise fund in the coming months. In consultation with the departments concerned, we have decided to raise the maximum number of days for fund-raising to 8 days during the period 1 April to 30 September 2004 and it will revert to 4 days thereafter.

Yours sincerely,

(Ryan Chiu)
for Secretary for Home Affairs