

# HONG KONG PHARMACISTS UNION

## 香港藥劑師工會

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供各委員傳閱

Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill 2014 Committee  
Legislative Council, Hong Kong  
F 2185 7845  
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9<sup>th</sup> June, 2014

Dear President, Legco Members,

Re: DH briefing session (Apr 10, 2014) for Pharmacists on Pharmacy and Poisons  
(Amendment) Bill

The Hong Kong Pharmacists Union would like to express regret and reservations after taking part in meeting with officials of the drug office in explaining amendments of the Chapter 138, Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance.

The Drug Office has failed to explain satisfactorily why the change of putting 'registered pharmacists' in the place of the word 'business' in the proposed amendment to members of our Union and other pharmacists presented on the night that this change would not put them in danger of law violation that might be committed by a third party in the premises.

Members of our Union as required by the Union Ordinance and our own Charters to be TOTAL employees in all working sectors do have concerns that employers might act out of their own interests to violate the law and thus putting the registered pharmacists at risk.

On the subject of Code of Conduct of Pharmacists, as all presenting members and pharmacists at the meeting agreed to the drafting of the Code, no one presented agreed to the idea put forward by the Drug Office that this Code should have a legal status and that the Pharmacy and Poisons Board have the right to change or amend it when the Board sees fit to it any time without consultation with our members and other working pharmacists.

The HK Pharmacists Union remain firm in the believe that until the composition of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board changes to a level whereby sufficient views and representation are given to the front line workers, putting the Code of Conduct into law and subjected it to changes would be both unjust and unfair to all practicing pharmacists.

The Drug Office disappointed Pharmacists upon questions on new definition of Pharmaceutical Products. They said the meaning of new term 'presented as' is similar to medicinal claim; regarding the definition of 'presented as', they said such definition could be found elsewhere on other departments' websites.

The Union would urge members of the Legislative Council to register our grave concern towards the proposed changes in this Bill by the Drug Office in this meeting and reflect our opinion expressed in this letter to the Drug Office accordingly.

Thanks for your kind attention.

Sincerely,



Kevin Cheung  
Hong Kong Pharmacists Union