

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(3) 619/18-19

Ref : CB(3)/M/MM

Tel : 3919 3300

Date : 17 May 2019

From : Clerk to the Legislative Council

To : All Members of the Legislative Council

Council meeting of 29 May 2019

**Amendments to Hon KWOK Wai-keung's motion on
"Supporting elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts"**

Further to LC Paper No. CB(3) 593/18-19 issued on 9 May 2019, 5 Members (Prof Hon Joseph LEE, Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG, Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG and Hon LEUNG Che-cheung) have respectively given notice to move amendments to Hon KWOK Wai-keung's motion. As directed by the President, the amendments will be printed in the terms in which they were handed in.

2. The President will order a joint debate on the above motion and the amendments. I set out below the relevant proceedings in which the President will:

- (a) call upon the motion mover to speak and move the motion;
- (b) propose the question on the motion;
- (c) call upon the Members who wish to move amendments to the motion to speak in the following order, but no amendment is to be moved at this stage:
 - (i) Prof Hon Joseph LEE;
 - (ii) Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG;
 - (iii) Hon KWONG Chun-yu;

- (iv) Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG; and
- (v) Hon LEUNG Che-cheung;
- (d) call upon the public officer(s) to speak;
- (e) invite other Members to speak;
- (f) call upon the motion mover to speak on the amendments;
- (g) call upon the public officer(s) to speak again;
- (h) deal with the amendments in the order set out in paragraph (c) above, i.e. first invite the mover of the first amendment to move the amendment and forthwith propose and put to vote the question on the amendment, and thereafter proceed to deal with the remaining amendments; and
- (i) after all amendments have been dealt with, call upon the motion mover to reply, and then put to vote the question on the motion, or the motion as amended, as the case may be.

3. For Members' reference, the terms of the original motion and the marked-up version of the amendments are set out in the **Appendix**.

4. Members are reminded that Hon KWOK Wai-keung's motion originally scheduled for the Council meeting of 22 May 2019 will be rescheduled to the Council meeting of 29 May 2019.

(Dora WAI)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

Encl.

(Translation)

**Motion debate on
“Supporting elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts”**

1. Hon KWOK Wai-keung’s original motion

That given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, welfare, healthcare and transport, including:

- (1) enacting legislation against age discrimination in workplace;
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;
- (3) enhancing the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market;
- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the age requirements for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, the Old Age Allowance and the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance; and

- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society.

2. Motion as amended by Prof Hon Joseph LEE

That given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to *comprehensively collect information on elderly persons aged above 60 in such respects as health, employment and finance, in order to formulate focused policies based on accurate statistics and at the same time* review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, welfare, healthcare and transport, including:

- (1) enacting legislation against age discrimination in workplace;
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;
- (3) enhancing the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market;
- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the age requirements for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, the Old Age Allowance and the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance; and

- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society;
- (7) *lowering the age for enrolment as members of elderly health centres of the Department of Health to 60, so that elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are eligible for using the services of elderly health centres;*
- (8) *lowering the eligible age for receiving free/subsidized seasonal influenza vaccination and pneumococcal vaccination under the Government's vaccination schemes to 60, so that elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 can receive these vaccinations for free or with subsidies; and*
- (9) *enhancing the provision of dental and audiological services for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64.*

Note: Prof Hon Joseph LEE's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

3. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG

That given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, *entrepreneurship*, welfare, healthcare ~~and~~, transport *and retirement life*, including:

- (1) enacting legislation against age discrimination in workplace;
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;

- (3) enhancing the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market;
- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the age requirements for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, the Old Age Allowance and the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance; ~~and~~
- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society;
- (7) *setting up a task force to study the development of silver hair industries, encouraging elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to develop a second career according to their ability, experience and interests, and establishing a silver hair business start-up fund to provide funding, coaching, information technology, social networking support, etc. to elderly persons who aspire to start their own business (especially those aged between 60 and 64); and*
- (8) *cooperating with the Mainland Government to conduct a study on planning and building new communities that can facilitate leisurely retirement life on the Mainland, especially in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area, to enable elderly retirees aged between 60 and 64 in Hong Kong to move to the Mainland to enjoy quality retirement life.*

Note: Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

4. Motion as amended by Hon KWONG Chun-yu

That *since the Government raised the age threshold for application for the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 have to face a welfare vacuum of several years;* given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number

of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, welfare, healthcare and transport, including:

- (1) enacting legislation against age discrimination in workplace;
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;
- (3) enhancing the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market, *so as to enable elderly persons who wish to work to take up employment again in the open market*;
- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the ~~age requirements~~ *thresholds for application* for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including *the Senior Citizen Card, elderly dental services, the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, and the Old Age Allowance, and reinstating the eligibility of elderly persons aged 60 for application for the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance*; and
- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, ~~thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society.~~

Note: Hon KWONG Chun-yu's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

5. Motion as amended by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG

That given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, *coupled with the Government raising the eligible age for application for the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance from 60 to 65 on 1 February 2019*, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support *adequately*; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, welfare, healthcare ~~and~~, transport *and retirement life*, including:

- (1) enacting legislation against age discrimination, *including age discrimination* in workplace;
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;
- (3) ~~enhancing~~ *reviewing the effectiveness of the Employment Programme for the Elderly and Middle-aged in promoting employment of the elderly to enhance* the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market;
- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the age requirements for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, the Old Age Allowance and the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (*including the provision of supplements and special grants*); ~~and~~

- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society; *and*
- (7) *establishing a comprehensive retirement protection system in the form of social insurance to protect the retirement life of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64.*

Note: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's amendment is marked in *bold and italic type* or with deletion line.

6. Motion as amended by Hon LEUNG Che-cheung

That given the absence of a statutory retirement age in Hong Kong at present, quite a number of employees are forced to retire upon reaching the age of 60; it is often difficult for them to rejoin the labour market after retirement due to such factors as age, physical conditions, inadequacy of suitable job positions and age discrimination, and as the age thresholds for application for most social services and welfare benefits for the elderly provided by the Government are 65 or above, elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 are unable to receive such support; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to review the elderly policies and services of various departments and support elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 on all fronts, such as employment, welfare, healthcare and transport, including:

- (1) ~~enacting~~ *studying the enactment of* legislation against age discrimination in workplace, *and publicizing the message of equal employment through various measures to enhance public awareness of and attention to elimination of age discrimination in workplace;*
- (2) formulating rules and regulations on re-employment of elderly retirees and rationalizing the Mandatory Provident Fund arrangements, so as to enhance the employment protection for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64;
- (3) enhancing the employment support for elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, providing designated employment programmes and retraining courses for them, and encouraging the provision of more job positions and industries suitable for the elderly in the market; *reducing by half the salaries tax on the working elderly to encourage elderly persons (especially those aged between 60 and 64) to remain in the workforce;*

- (4) offering subsidies to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 who have taken up employment again as well as their employers, and providing the \$2 concessionary transport fare to elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to further motivate them to take up employment again;
- (5) adjusting the age requirements for various types of elderly welfare for the benefit of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64, including the Elderly Health Care Vouchers, the Old Age Living Allowance, the Old Age Allowance and the Elderly Comprehensive Social Security Assistance, ***and lowering the eligible age for application for the Senior Citizen Card and enrolment at elderly health centres under the Department of Health to 60; and***
- (6) formulating measures and allocating resources to motivate elderly persons aged between 60 and 64 to actively participate in neighbourhood mutual help activities, volunteer work and social affairs in the community, thereby encouraging them to make continuous contribution to society; ***and***
- (7) ***exempting elderly retirees (especially those aged between 60 and 64) from the payment of rates for their self-occupied properties.***

Note: Hon LEUNG Che-cheung's amendment is marked in ***bold and italic type*** or with deletion line.