

FAX MESSAGE

**TO: Mr. Lau Chin-shek,
Chair of the Manpower Panel
C/o Legislative Council Secretariat
Fax no: 2877 8024**

PAGES: 1

DATE: 11th November 1999

Dear Mr. Lau Chin-shek,

I write a letter in support of incidental driving duties for foreign domestic helpers.

Our foreign domestic helper has been with us for over 6 years, although I have known him and his family in the Philippines for 15 years. His job in our household includes many other duties apart from driving. Driving is incidental to his work as a domestic helper. However, as my husband and I travel a great deal, and we have 3 young children, it is of great comfort to know that Luisito Mabuyo is in house and able to drive a car if an emergency should arise.

His duties are numerous, they include pool cleaning, serving table, taking care of dogs, general heavy household work that the female domestic helpers are unable to do. Mr. Mabuyo's salary is substantially higher than the minimum wage, but I do not believe that we would be able to find a local driver who would be prepared to live-in and carry out the range of duties that a foreign domestic helper does.

Therefore on behalf of many employers of foreign domestic helpers, I would implore the Government to consider very carefully, the effects of introducing or enforcing the new policy.

Yours sincerely,


Geraldine Elaine Forsgate Marden

**Cc: Mr. H.M.G. Forsgate, C.B.E, JP
The Hon. and Mrs. Michael Kadoorie
Mrs. Anne Marden, M.B.E., JP
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Spurrier
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Forsgate
Mr. & Mrs. Percy Weatherall**