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27/03/2008 15:53

To beStrong@fhb.gov.hk

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Subject Comments on Consultation Document on Health Care Reform

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Dear Sir,

As a Hong Kong citizen who borned and grew up here, I am very disappointed by the recent actions and reforms proposed by the HKSAR.

My father just died in the last summer for lung and bone cancers. He was a smoker when he was young but had gave up for long. We are very angry about what happens recently - late implementation of non-smoking in all restaurants and shopping arcades only on 1 January 2007, but there are smokers all around in the street, at the bus stops, and etc. My family and all non-smokers are forced to intake all the second hand toxic every day on the street. I would also like to take this chance to point out that I and my family reserve the rights to sue the HKSAR for any health care diseases caused by the HKSAR not implementing non-smoking in all public areas at the earliest possible time as in other advance countries or cities.

Considering the enormous costs spent every year in health care for smoking related diseases and their side-effects, I cannot make any support to the proposed reform but also urge the HKSAR should take serious considerations on withdrawing all supports to those patients - who are smokers, by charging them the full costs without subsidiaries.

The most effective and efficient way to save health care costs is to implement non-smoking in all public areas, including streets, bus stops and so on, immediately. Hence, I, here, urge the HKSAR to prepare and enforce non-smoking in all public areas within this year, even it is already too late (taking into considerations that it takes time for the law making process).

Regarding the health care reform, the HKSAR should be well-aware in the survey made that all middle class people have their companies bought medical insurance for them and they are not the major users of the public health care services. They will also buy hospitality insurance for themselves and their family to meet their unexpected needs. The reform proposed just adds "health tax" on those middle class while the beneficiaries are those low income people.

Who are those low income people? Most of them are immigrants from the mainland China. HKSAR should calculate and do the budget very carefully when approving those immigrants. Compared with foreign countries, like Canada, even for immigration application for family rejoin, they require their citizen to provide proofs on their financial strengths that they can support the immigrants' daily live expenses before approving the applications. This has been raised for HKSAR's considerations and implementation for long but no feedbacks are obtained. If similar measures are not implemented for immigration applications to Hong Kong, it will just make the situation even worse in the coming years. As a middle class, if you, the HKSAR does not do something about this and the situation is not improved, what I can do is to move away with my family.

I sincerely urge HKSAR to reconsider all the above and do something first before talking about any health care reform with us.

I wish to remain anonymous when my views are published.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Lau Suk Yin

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碍-嫫程尺-呼蹈協-嬾婁□鞞

<http://adawards.sina.com.hk/5/form1.html>

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<http://ladies.sina.com.hk/cgi-bin/club/index.cgi>

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<http://music.sina.com.hk/cgi-bin/mu/albums.cgi?l=2>

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