



"Joe"

<>

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To <beStrong@fhb.gov.hk>

cc

bcc

Subject

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Dear Sir

I think this is the platform to express my view on the health reform.

I am a certified public accountant by trade.

A government is respected because of ability to take care of its citizen. Health care is an important subject to all of us as we do not know our health in future. Some of us may suffer illness in young age and die earlier. Some will die painfully in hospital while having a long life. Nobody knows how much this costs.

Government, through the Health Authority (HA), have provided reasonably good care to the needy. Unfortunately, some people has abused the system and resulted into huge cost for HA.

The Government currently enjoy surplus. Government should put more capital to establish the health fund. It is surprising to know that Government would return the tax to individual despite the need to use the fund for health fund.

The reasons for the huge health cost incurred by Health Authority could be as follows:

1. Abuse of general public on the usage of health service. So many people queued for the emergence service for having flu in March 2008. Of course, the people should go the private clinic. Why would they go for emergency service for treatment ? The answer could be its low price. I think government should take heavy measure to prevent the abuse of usage in health service. It should be recommended that hospital should increase the charges for the health service. However, subsidy should be given to poor people. Education/advertisement should be given to general public so that they would feel ashamed for abuse of health service usage.
2. High professional personnel cost incurred. Pls check with UK and find out the doctor's salary. It is astonishing to know that the Hong Kong doctor's salary is relatively high.
3. The administrative cost is high. It is interesting to know that even the CEO and high grade staff etc of Heath Authority would enjoy such high remuneration with bonus. Pls note that it is a quasi government organization and I find it hard to believe that this type job would take such high salary.

We should never follow the US way as it would lead to a distort society. It is always the case that middle class and rich people should give a helping to the poor to encourage harmony among the rich, middle class and poor. Government should take a leading role in building this harmony. Trying to off load this responsibility is DEEMED to fail as the insurance scheme would not serve the poor. Would you look into the UK model on the National Health Service.

Government should inject more capital to the health fund as the economy is still good. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE TAX OR BENEFIT TO INDIVIDUAL as this is not necessary. Government should also encourage the middle class and rich individual to use private hospital. If there is no money for the health fund, WHY WOULD GOVERNMENT AIM TO LOWER THE TAX RATE ? Instead of lower it, Government would need to increase it if needed so that the health cost could be met.

Regards

Joe Yiu