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Subject Views on Healthcare Reform

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The middle-income taxpayers are always the victims under Hong Kong's taxation and public welfare structure. They are the most taxed but enjoy minimal public welfare coverage. I hope the eventual result of this initiative will not make this situation even worse.

I think the current fees charged for most of the services provided by the public healthcare system are unnecessary too low, and the fees can be considerably increased without affecting the affordability of most of the people. The low-income group will be protected by the safety net anyway. Apart from reducing the financial burden of the healthcare system, raising the fees can also deter the abusive use of public medical services.

I strongly object introducing any form of mandatory medical saving accounts or private health insurance in view of the extra financial burden on the middle-income group, not to mention the failure of similar arrangements such as the MPF framework in protecting the interests of the Hong Kong citizens. Such one-size-fits-all mandatory arrangements will also deprive our freedom to make alternative choices which would better suit individual financial and healthcare needs.

Mr Lam

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