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From:

Date: 2006/09/16 Sat AM 09:51:17 CST

To: pa-consultation@cab.gov.hk

Subject: further development of the political appointment system

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Dear Sir,

While to better meet the demand of people-based governance is always a commendable goal, I do not consider it necessary to incurring additional expenses to do so. Public communication and liaison work should be more equally shared by other existing government officers (or positions) rather than creating new ones. Furthermore, these are non-technical tasks and the proposed salary for the new positions are too high in view of what these new appointees are expected to do. It is possible to hire people good public communication skills at \$40,000/month.

Similarly, even if the argument that additional appointment can enhance the capacity of the political team to take on political work is valid, does not call for excessive pay for these non-civil servant posts.

Third, it is my experience that one of the main constraints in people-based governance progression is not the lack of political appointments in the government structure. Rather, what I notice are that some existing laws are not properly enforced, issues that require legislative controls are not regulated by any current laws and far too much time is wasted in paper work within the government. Communication even within the same department is not adequate not to mention communication between departments. I would very much like the Chief Executive to solve these problems before thinking about creating positions that are of only secondary importance.

(Name provided)

(Editor's Note: The sender requested anonymity.)

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