(Translation)

Dr Hon David LAM's motion on "Comprehensively promoting healthcare financing reform and making optimal use of public and private healthcare resources"

Wording of the Motion

That the Government announced the Public Healthcare Fees and Charges Reform on 25 March this year to comprehensively adjust the fees and charges of various public healthcare services, expand and enhance the co-payment mechanism, and enhance the fee waiver mechanism in order to achieve the objectives of "affordable users pay", making optimal use of resources, reducing wastage, and subsidizing people with financial needs in accessing healthcare services that meet their needs; the Administration briefed the Panel on Health Services of the Legislative Council on 9 May this year on the legislative proposals to enhance price transparency of private healthcare services, which aim at allowing patients to gain access to more comprehensive price information; given the increasing popularity of health insurance as a third-party payer, the transparency and certainty of insurance claims are of great importance to patients; in this connection, this Council urges the Government to adopt measures to ensure the underprivileged groups' access to public healthcare services without worries, assist households with financial hardships in resolving co-payment issues, build sufficient healthcare facilities, make optimal use of private healthcare services and enhance the transparency and certainty of health insurance claims so as to comprehensively promote healthcare financing reform in a multi-pronged approach.