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BY E-MAIL AND POST

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**Attention: Mr Andy Sim
Deputy Director (Legal Policy Division)**

Dear Sirs

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO LOWER THE CONTRACTUAL AGE FROM 21 YEARS TO 18 YEARS AND THE DRAFT CIVIL LAW (AMENDMENT) BILL

We refer to your e-mail request dated 25 August 2008 inviting the Law Society and our members to give our comments on the proposal to lower the contractual age from 21 years to 18 years and the draft Civil Law (Amendment) Bill (the "draft Bill").

We invited members to give their views on the draft Bill and we summarize the feedback received from our members as follows:

1. Proposal to lower the contractual age from 21 years to 18 years

While it is recognized that lowering the contractual age from 21 years to 18 years is to promote entrepreneurship, there are concerns as to the capacity of persons aged 18, 19 or 20 years entering into such legally binding contracts without seeking legal advice, as they may not be aware of the implications, obligations, liabilities and responsibilities of entering into such contracts. This may in turn lead to litigation with persons who are 18, 19 or 20 years.

2. Definition of "minor"

It would be useful to clarify whether a reduction in the age of contractual capacity would result in a corresponding change to how an "infant", "child", "minor" or "young person" is defined in other statutes.

3. Section 35(4) of the draft Bill

Ringfencing for land matters seems artificial as a minor (under the current draft Bill is defined as someone between 18 and 21) can incorporate a company to hold land for a lease of longer than 3 years. Creating a category of such minor-adults could be confusing for entrepreneurship.

Thank you for giving the Law Society the opportunity to offer our views on this matter.

Yours faithfully



Loo Chuan Lin
Officer, Representation & Law Reform



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