

Action threatened over health listings

THE powerful Joint Conference of Health Care Professional Organisations on Basic Law has threatened to take further action unless the Government amends the list of voters who can register in the health care constituency before June 17.

The final registration begins on that date but more than 1,000 civil servants have been barred from registering as electors because they are not members of any of the 13 professional associations included in the Government list.

The group, led by convenor Mr Peter Wong Hyo, yesterday petitioned the Office of Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils to intervene so that the administration could make special arrangements for these professionals.

The Omelco meeting came a week after the group made its complaints known during a meeting with the Constitutional and Electoral Division which drew up the electoral list. The group was told the civil servants' staff

associations were trade unions which were classified under the labour constituency.

"We are seeking Omelco's assistance in order that all those qualified supplementary medical professionals can be registered as electors under the health care constituency," he said.

The health care constituency will return a new seat, in addition to the medical constituency, to the Legislative Council by September.

The Joint Conference will meet by mid-May to decide on other strategies to force the Government hand on the issue. It might also seek clarification from the Health and Welfare Branch.

"We'll consider further actions. We can do something more besides industrial action," he said. He did not reveal any details.

Executive and Legislative Councillor Allen Lee Peng-fei, who led the Omelco panel, said the matter would be taken up with the relevant Government branch.

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