

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2318/00-01

(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/15/00

Bills Committee on Revenue Bill 2001 and Revenue (No.2) Bill 2001

**Minutes of the third meeting
held on Tuesday, 29 May 2001 at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Members Present : Hon Margaret NG (Chairman)
Hon HUI Cheung-ching
Hon CHAN Yuen-han
Hon CHAN Kam-lam
Hon SIN Chung-kai
Hon Howard YOUNG, JP
Hon Mrs Miriam LAU Kin-yee, JP
Hon Andrew CHENG Kar-foo
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP

Member Absent : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum

Public Officers Attending : Mr Martin GLASS, JP
Deputy Secretary for the Treasury

Ms Esther LEUNG
Principal Assistant Secretary for the Treasury

Mr Donald CHEN
Assistant Secretary for the Treasury

Miss Maisie CHAN
Assistant Secretary for the Treasury

Action

Mr Simon WONG
Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise
(Administration and Excise)

Mr Peter LUK
Assistant Commissioner for Transport
(Management and Licensing)

Mr K F CHENG
Senior Assistant Law Draftsman, Department of Justice

Clerk in Attendance : Ms Doris CHAN
Chief Assistant Secretary (2) 4

Staff in Attendance : Ms Bernice WONG
Assistant Legal Adviser 1

Miss Mary SO
Senior Assistant Secretary (2) 8

Further submission received

Members noted a second submission from the Helicopters Hong Kong Limited (HHKL) on the proposed re-structuring of the rental agreement for the heliport at the Macau Ferry Terminal (MFT) Helipad, which was tabled at the meeting. As the subject matter was outside the scope of the Bills Committee, members agreed to refer the aforesaid submission to the Panel on Economic Services for follow-up action.

I. Meeting with the Administration
(LC Paper No. CB(2)1651/00-01(01))

2. Members noted the above paper which set out the Administration's response to the submission from the Hong Kong Beer Industry Coalition and that from HHKL on the Revenue Bill 2001 and the Revenue (No.2) Bill 2001, together with other relevant information requested by the Bills Committee, and raised no queries.

Clause-by-clause examination of the Bills

3. Members then proceeded to examine the two Bills clause-by-clause.

Action

4. Members noted that the Administration would move two Committee Stage amendments (CSAs) relating to the revenue proposal of increasing vehicle and driving licence fees, which were technical in nature. The first CSA was a technical amendment to revise the calculation of additional fee for any unlicensed period since the previous vehicle licence expired. The CSA would enable the Transport Department to apply the pre-amended Schedule 2 fees for the whole day of 7 March 2001, instead of applying two different rates to two portions of the same day (before and after 2:30 pm). Separately, due to an oversight, the Administration did not include in clause 3 of the Bill an increase in fees for the issue and renewal of probationary driving licences. The Administration therefore proposed to move a CSA to the effect that the fees for the issue and renewal of probationary driving licences should be increased by 10%. Members agreed that the proposed amendments were in order.

Members' stances

5. Mr Tommy CHEUNG opposed the proposed increase from 30% to 40% the duty rate on liquors with an alcoholic content of 30% and below (except wine), and would consider moving a CSA to repeal it.

6. Mr SIN Chung-kai said that the Democratic Party opposed the proposed increases relating to driving licences, vehicle licences and parking meter charges, and would vote against the relevant clauses.

7. Mrs Miriam LAU expressed her opposition to the proposed imposition of Air Passenger Departure Tax on helicopter passengers departing from MFT Helipad and indicated that she would consider moving a CSA in this regard.

Legislative timetable

8. Members agreed that a report would be made to the House Committee on 8 June 2001 recommending resumption of the Second Reading debate on the Bills at the Council meeting on 20 June 2001. If the date of resumption of the Second Reading debate was agreed, notice of resumption of the Second Reading debate and notice of CSAs had to be given by 9 June 2001 and 11 June 2001 respectively.

9. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:10 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat

19 September 2001