

CB(1) 2480/01-02(06)

9 August 2002

Mr S C Tsang
Clerk to the Bills Committee on the
Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2001
Legislative Council
3/F Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Tsang,

Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2001

Thank you for your letter of 16 July 2002 inviting our comments on the Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2001.

The Federation fully supports the Bill to liberalise parallel importation of computer software under the Copyright Ordinance. We believe the existing 18-month ban on parallel imports is detrimental to genuine market competition and free trade. It has also created an environment for local dealers to control prices.

We are hopeful that removing the criminal and civil liabilities relating to parallel importation of computer software products and their commercial dealings would enhance market competition, thereby benefiting general consumers and business corporations by lowered prices and wider choices in product selection.

Yours sincerely,

V. C. Davies
Director-General

c.c. the Hon. Kenneth Ting