

COPYRIGHT (SUSPENSION OF AMENDMENTS) ORDINANCE 2001

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**RESOLUTION**

(Under section 3 of the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments)  
Ordinance 2001 (Cap. 568))

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RESOLVED that the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments)  
Ordinance 2001 (Amendment) Notice 2002, made by the  
Secretary for Commerce and Industry on 18 June  
2002, be approved.

**COPYRIGHT (SUSPENSION OF AMENDMENTS) ORDINANCE 2001  
(AMENDMENT) NOTICE 2002**

(Made under section 3 of the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments)  
Ordinance 2001 (Cap. 568) subject to the approval of the  
Legislative Council)

**1. Lifting of suspension**

Section 3(1) of the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments)  
Ordinance 2001 (Cap. 568) is amended by repealing "31 July 2002"  
and substituting "31 July 2003".

Secretary for Commerce and Industry

18 June 2002

**Explanatory Note**

This Notice amends the expiry date under section 3 of the  
Copyright (Suspension of Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (Cap. 568)  
from 31 July 2002 to 31 July 2003.

(Translation)

**Speech by the Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology  
to move the Resolution to approve the  
Copyright (Suspension of Amendments) Ordinance 2001  
(Amendment) Notice 2002**

**at the Meeting of the Legislative Council on 10 July 2002**

President,

I move that the Resolution set out in the Order Paper be passed. The Resolution approves the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (Amendment) Notice 2002 made by the Secretary for Commerce and Industry.

2. The commencement of the criminal provisions for possessing pirated articles in the course of business in April 2001 had aroused public concerns that the new law impaired the dissemination of information in enterprises and teaching in schools. The Copyright (Suspension of Amendments) Ordinance 2001 (“the Suspension Ordinance”) was passed in June 2001 to suspend the new law except as it applied to computer programs, movies, television dramas and musical recordings.

3. The relevant provisions on the suspension will expire on 31 July 2002. According to section 3 of the Suspension Ordinance, the Secretary for Commerce and Industry may by notice published in the Gazette before the expiry date amend that date. Such a notice is subject to the approval of the Legislative Council (“the LegCo”).

4. After wide consultation, we proposed in February this year to make the suspension arrangement permanent. This proposal was supported by the LegCo Panel on Commerce and Industry. We are carefully drafting the amendment bill with a view to introduce it into the LegCo as soon as possible. To ensure that LegCo will have sufficient time to scrutinize the bill, the Government proposes to extend the validity period of the suspension arrangements by 12 months till 31 July 2003.

5. Thank you, President.