

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS65/05-06

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
on 12 May 2006**

**Legal Service Division Report on
Proposed Resolution under section 23(3) of the
Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374)**

The Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works has given notice to move a motion at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 24 May 2006. The purpose of the motion is to seek the Legislative Council's approval to further extend, for five years up to 20 June 2011, the period during which the number of registered public light buses ("PLBs") may be limited.

2. Under section 23(1) of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374), the Chief Executive in Council may by notice in the Gazette limit the number of vehicles in a particular class which may be registered. The limit so notified shall remain in force for such period not exceeding 12 months but the Legislative Council may from time to time extend the period. The existing Public Light Buses (Limitation on Number) Notice (Cap. 374 sub. leg. K), which limits the total number of vehicles which may be registered as PLBs to 4,350, came into operation on 20 June 1986. The period for which the limit remains in force has since been extended from time to time through resolutions of the Legislative Council and it was last extended in June 2001 for five years up to 20 June 2006.

3. According to the Secretary for Environment, Transport and Works's draft speech, the total number of PLBs has been the same since 1976. The Administration considers it appropriate to extend the existing limitation on the total number of PLBs for five years up to 20 June 2011, having regard to the patronage of PLBs in the past few years and the planned expansion of railways in the coming years.

4. The legal and drafting aspects of the proposed resolution present no problem.

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10 May 2006