

Bills Committee on Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Bill

Follow-up actions required of the Administration

(as at 3 June 2010)

The Administration was requested to provide the following information to address concerns raised by members at the meeting held on 1 June 2010 -

Road safety issues

- (a) Medical expert's advice on the impact of enforcing prohibition against idling vehicles with running engines (the idling prohibition) on very hot days on the health and performance of drivers and hence road safety, in particular on the driver's exercise of judgement;

Concerns about the wear-and-tear of the engine components

- (b) The Administration's response to concerns about whether frequent switching off and restarting of engines would aggravate the wear-and-tear of the engine components, thus increasing the maintenance costs;
- (c) Explanation of why the results of the trial conducted by Hon Miriam LAU in collaboration with the Hong Kong and Kowloon Taxi Merchants' Joint Committee could not serve as proofs to show that the proposed idling prohibition would lead to wear-and-tear of the engine components of taxis in a queue moving into a taxi stand; and

Issues relating to bus operation

- (d) Justifications for section 2(4) of Schedule 1 to the Bill providing that the idling prohibition would not "apply to a driver of a bus, other than a franchised bus, that has any passenger on board", and the reasons for not granting the same exemption to franchised buses.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
3 June 2010