

MOTOR VEHICLE IDLING (FIXED PENALTY) BILL**CONTENTS**

Clause	Page
PART 1	
PRELIMINARY	
1. Short title and commencement	C307
2. Interpretation	C307
3. Application	C309
PART 2	
MOTOR VEHICLE IDLING PROHIBITED	
4. What is idling	C311
5. Idling prohibited	C311
6. Exemptions by Director	C311
PART 3	
FIXED PENALTY	
Division 1—Liability for Fixed Penalty	
7. Fixed penalty	C313
Division 2—Penalty Notices and Demand Notices	
8. Authorized officer may give penalty notice	C313
9. Power to demand personal details, proof of identity and driving authority	C313
10. Supply of false information	C315

Clause		Page
11.	Demand notice if person fails to pay fixed penalty or refuses to accept penalty notice	C315
12.	Withdrawal of penalty notice or demand notice	C315

Division 3—Recovery of Fixed Penalty if Default

13.	Recovery of fixed penalty if default	C317
14.	Application for review of magistrate's order	C317
15.	Outcome of review	C319

Division 4—Proceedings if Person Disputes Liability

16.	Proceedings if person disputes liability	C319
17.	Summons to defendant	C321
18.	Proceedings in absence of defendant	C321
19.	Hearing of complaint	C323
20.	Additional penalty	C323
21.	Costs orders	C323
22.	Discontinuance of complaint	C325
23.	Payment of fixed penalty after summons	C325

Division 5—General Provisions for Proceedings

24.	Evidentiary certificate	C325
25.	Distress for non-payment	C327
26.	Power to rescind order on application by the Authority	C327

PART 4

GENERAL

27.	Powers and functions of authorized officers	C329
28.	Protection of the Authority and authorized officers	C329

Clause	Page
29. Obstruction of authorized officers	C329
30. Delegation by the Authority	C329
31. Regulations	C329
32. Amendment of Schedules	C331
Schedule 1 Drivers to whom idling prohibition does not apply	C331
Schedule 2 The Authority and authorized officers	C339

A BILL

To

Prohibit the idling of motor vehicles; provide exemptions from the prohibition; impose a fixed penalty for contravention of the prohibition; provide for recovery of the fixed penalty and provide for incidental and related matters.

Enacted by the Legislative Council.

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

1. Short title and commencement

(1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance.

(2) This Ordinance comes into operation on a day to be appointed by the Secretary for the Environment by notice published in the Gazette.

2. Interpretation

(1) In this Ordinance—

“Authority” (當局) means a person specified in column 1 of Schedule 2;

“authorized officer” (獲授權人員) means a person specified in column 2 of Schedule 2;

“complaint” (申訴) means a complaint under Division 4 of Part 3;

“demand notice” (繳款通知書) means a notice served under section 11(2);

“Director” (署長) means the Director of Environmental Protection;

“driver” (司機), in relation to a motor vehicle, means any person who is in charge of, or assisting in the control of, the vehicle;

“driving authority” (駕駛權限) means a driving licence, a domestic driving permit, a domestic driving licence or an international driving permit within the meaning of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374);

“fixed penalty” (定額罰款) means the fixed penalty referred to in section 7;

“idling” (引擎空轉) has the meaning given by section 4;

“internal combustion engine” (內燃引擎) has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic (Construction and Maintenance of Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. A);

“judgment amount” (判決款額) means an amount ordered by a magistrate to be paid by a person (other than a complainant) under this Ordinance, whether by way of fixed penalty, additional penalty or costs;

“motor vehicle” (汽車) means any mechanically propelled vehicle that is constructed or adapted for use on a road;

“passenger” (乘客), in relation to a motor vehicle, means a person carried in or on the vehicle other than the driver;

“penalty notice” (罰款通知書) means a notice referred to in section 8;

“proof of identity” (身分證明文件) has the same meaning as in section 17B of the Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115);

“road” (道路) means—

(a) a road within the meaning of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374); or

(b) a private road within the meaning of that Ordinance.

(2) Where this Ordinance includes an example of the operation of a provision—

(a) the example is not exhaustive; and

(b) if the example is inconsistent with the provision, the provision prevails.

3. Application

This Ordinance applies to all motor vehicles and drivers in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, including those of the Government and of the Offices set up by the Central People’s Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

PART 2**MOTOR VEHICLE IDLING PROHIBITED****4. What is idling**

For the purposes of this Ordinance, a motor vehicle is idling if any internal combustion engine forming part of, attached to or situated in or on the vehicle is operating while the vehicle is stationary.

5. Idling prohibited

(1) The driver of a motor vehicle must not cause or permit the vehicle to be idling on a road for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period.

(2) This section does not apply to—

(a) a driver referred to in Schedule 1; or

(b) a driver who is exempted, or is in a class of drivers that is exempted, under section 6.

6. Exemptions by Director

(1) The Director may exempt a driver or class of drivers from section 5 subject to any conditions the Director thinks fit.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Director may determine a class of drivers in any manner the Director chooses, including a class determined by the type of motor vehicle or the type of activity in which the driver is engaging.

(3) An exemption may apply generally or be limited to a particular area or a particular time or both.

(4) If the Director exempts a driver, the Director must give the driver written notice of the exemption.

(5) If the Director exempts a class of drivers, the Director must publish notice of the exemption in the Gazette.

(6) A notice of exemption is not subsidiary legislation.

PART 3**FIXED PENALTY****Division 1—Liability for Fixed Penalty****7. Fixed penalty**

(1) A person who contravenes section 5 does not commit an offence but is liable to pay a fixed penalty of \$320 for the contravention.

(2) The Legislative Council may, by resolution, amend the amount of the fixed penalty specified in subsection (1).

Division 2—Penalty Notices and Demand Notices**8. Authorized officer may give penalty notice**

(1) If an authorized officer has reason to believe that a person is contravening or has contravened section 5, the officer may give the person a notice in the prescribed form requiring him or her to pay the fixed penalty for the contravention.

(2) The notice may be given to the person personally or by affixing it to the motor vehicle.

9. Power to demand personal details, proof of identity and driving authority

(1) If an authorized officer has reason to believe that a person is contravening or has contravened section 5, the officer may, for the purpose of issuing or serving a summons or other document in relation to the contravention, require the person to—

- (a) supply his or her name, date of birth, address and contact telephone number (if any); and
- (b) produce for inspection his or her proof of identity and driving authority (if any).

(2) A person who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a requirement made under subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable to a fine at level 2.

10. Supply of false information

A person who, in purported compliance with a requirement made under section 9(1), supplies any information that he or she knows is false or misleading commits an offence and is liable to a fine at level 2.

11. Demand notice if person fails to pay fixed penalty or refuses to accept penalty notice

- (1) This section applies if a person—
 - (a) fails to pay the fixed penalty within 21 days after being given a penalty notice; or
 - (b) refuses to accept a penalty notice intended to be given to him or her.
- (2) The Authority may serve on the person a notice in the prescribed form—
 - (a) demanding payment of the fixed penalty;
 - (b) informing the person that he or she must notify the Authority in writing if he or she wishes to dispute liability for the contravention to which the fixed penalty relates; and
 - (c) stating that the payment or notification must be made within 10 days after the date of service of the notice.
- (3) A demand notice cannot be served later than—
 - (a) if subsection (1)(a) applies, 6 months after the date on which the penalty notice was given; or
 - (b) if subsection (1)(b) applies, 6 months after the date of the refusal.
- (4) A demand notice may be served by sending it by post to the person's address.
- (5) A certificate of posting in the prescribed form purporting to be signed by or for the Authority is admissible in evidence in any proceedings under this Ordinance and, unless there is evidence to the contrary, it must be presumed that—
 - (a) the certificate was signed by or for the Authority; and
 - (b) the demand notice to which the certificate relates was duly served.

12. Withdrawal of penalty notice or demand notice

- (1) The Authority may withdraw a penalty notice or demand notice at any time—
 - (a) before an order is made under section 13; or

- (b) before the issuing of a summons commencing proceedings under Division 4.
- (2) If a penalty notice or demand notice is withdrawn—
 - (a) the Authority must serve notice of the withdrawal on the person to whom the penalty notice or demand notice applied; and
 - (b) on application by the person, the Authority must refund, through the Director of Accounting Services, any amount paid in respect of the fixed penalty.

Division 3—Recovery of Fixed Penalty if Default

13. Recovery of fixed penalty if default

(1) This section applies if a person on whom a demand notice has been served fails to pay the fixed penalty or notify the Authority in accordance with the notice.

(2) On an application made in the name of the Secretary for Justice and production of the documents referred to in subsection (3), a magistrate must order the person to pay, within 14 days after the date of service of notice of the order—

- (a) the fixed penalty;
 - (b) an additional penalty equal to the amount of the fixed penalty; and
 - (c) \$300 by way of costs.
- (3) The documents are—
- (a) a copy of the demand notice;
 - (b) a certificate of posting the demand notice under section 11(5); and
 - (c) a certificate under section 24.

(4) The magistrate must cause notice of the order to be served on the person to whom it applies and it may be served by sending it by post to the person's address.

(5) An application under this section may be made in the absence of the person and the Secretary for Justice may appoint any person or class of persons to make it.

(6) The Legislative Council may, by resolution, amend the amount specified in subsection (2)(c).

14. Application for review of magistrate's order

(1) A person to whom an order made under section 13 applies may apply to a magistrate for review of the order.

(2) An application must be made within 14 days after the date on which the order first came to the personal attention of the applicant.

(3) The applicant must give reasonable notice of the application to the Authority.

(4) An application may be made in person or by counsel or solicitor and the magistrate, for the purpose of securing the attendance of witnesses and generally for conducting the proceedings, has all the powers of a magistrate hearing a complaint under the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227).

15. Outcome of review

(1) On application under section 14, a magistrate may rescind an order made under section 13 if the magistrate is satisfied that the demand notice did not come to the personal attention of the applicant without any fault on the part of the applicant.

(2) If the magistrate rescinds the order and the applicant wishes to dispute liability for the contravention to which the order relates, the magistrate must order that the matter be determined in accordance with Division 4.

(3) If the magistrate rescinds the order and the applicant does not wish to dispute liability for the contravention, the magistrate—

(a) must order the applicant to pay the fixed penalty within 10 days after the date of the order; and

(b) must order that, if the applicant fails to pay the fixed penalty within that period, the applicant must immediately pay—

(i) the fixed penalty;

(ii) an additional penalty equal to the amount of the fixed penalty; and

(iii) \$300 by way of costs.

(4) The Legislative Council may, by resolution, amend the amount specified in subsection (3)(b)(iii).

Division 4—Proceedings if Person Disputes Liability

16. Proceedings if person disputes liability

(1) This section applies if—

(a) a person who is given a penalty notice notifies the Authority in writing, before being served with a demand notice, that he or she wishes to dispute liability for the contravention to which the penalty notice relates;

(b) a person on whom a demand notice is served notifies the Authority in accordance with the demand notice that he or she wishes to dispute liability for the contravention to which the demand notice relates; or

(c) a magistrate makes an order under section 15(2).

(2) If this section applies, the matter is to be determined in accordance with this Division by a magistrate in a summary way, on a complaint made in the name of the Secretary for Justice.

(3) The Secretary for Justice may appoint any person or class of persons to make a complaint.

(4) A complaint cannot be made later than—

(a) if subsection (1)(a) or (b) applies, 6 months after the person notifies the Authority that he or she wishes to dispute liability; or

(b) if subsection (1)(c) applies, 6 months after the date of the order under section 15(2).

17. Summons to defendant

A summons may be issued and served on the person who is the subject of a complaint in accordance with section 8 of the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227).

18. Proceedings in absence of defendant

(1) If a person served with a summons does not appear at the time and place appointed for the hearing, or at any adjourned hearing, the magistrate may, subject to this section, proceed to hear and determine the complaint in the absence of the person.

(2) The magistrate must not hear the complaint in the absence of the person unless—

(a) service of the summons is proved under section 8 of the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227) and the magistrate is satisfied that it was served a reasonable time before the time appointed for the hearing; or

(b) the person has appeared on a previous occasion to answer the complaint.

(3) If the complaint is heard in the absence of the person, the substance of the complaint may be proved by production of—

(a) a copy of the demand notice;

(b) a certificate of posting the demand notice under section 11(5); and

(c) a certificate under section 24.

(4) If the complaint is heard in the absence of the person, the magistrate must send by post to the person's address a copy of any order made in relation to the complaint.

19. Hearing of complaint

(1) The magistrate must hear and determine the complaint and, for that purpose, the magistrate has all the powers of a magistrate hearing a complaint under the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227), including—

- (a) the power to issue a summons for the appearance of witnesses; and
- (b) the power to adjourn the hearing.

(2) If the defendant does not admit the truth of the complaint at the hearing, the defendant must state the nature of his or her defence.

(3) If the defendant does not at that time expressly put in issue any allegation of fact stated in a certificate under section 24 that has been produced by the complainant, the defendant cannot at any later time dispute or adduce evidence to contradict that fact.

20. Additional penalty

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) a complaint is heard in the absence of the defendant; or
- (b) the defendant offers no defence to a complaint or a defence that is frivolous or vexatious.

(2) If this section applies, the magistrate must order that the defendant pay a penalty equal to the amount of the fixed penalty, in addition to the fixed penalty and any costs ordered in the proceedings.

21. Costs orders

(1) If a magistrate dismisses a complaint, the magistrate may at the same time make an order for the payment of costs by the complainant of not less than \$600 or more than \$1,500.

(2) If, on a complaint, a magistrate orders a person to pay a fixed penalty (with or without an additional penalty), the magistrate may at the same time make an order for the payment of costs by the person of not less than \$600 or more than \$1,500.

(3) The Legislative Council may, by resolution, amend an amount specified in subsection (1) or (2).

22. Discontinuance of complaint

(1) A complainant may discontinue the complaint at any stage before the magistrate has commenced to hear it, on giving written notice to the defendant and the magistrate.

(2) Leave of the magistrate is not required for the complainant to do so.

23. Payment of fixed penalty after summons

(1) A person who is served with a summons to answer a complaint may pay the following amounts in accordance with subsection (2)—

(a) the fixed penalty;

(b) an additional penalty equal to the amount of the fixed penalty;
and

(c) \$500 by way of costs.

(2) Payment must be made to a magistrate's court not later than 2 clear working days before the day specified in the summons for the hearing of the complaint and the person must produce the summons when making the payment.

(3) Payment in accordance with this section terminates the proceedings on the complaint.

(4) The Legislative Council may, by resolution, amend the amount specified in subsection (1)(c).

(5) In this section—

“clear working days” (整個工作天) excludes the day specified in the summons for the appearance of the person and intervening public holidays.

Division 5—General Provisions for Proceedings

24. Evidentiary certificate

(1) A certificate in the prescribed form stating the matters in subsection (2) and purporting to be signed by or for the Authority is admissible in evidence in any proceedings under this Ordinance.

(2) The matters are—

(a) that a specified motor vehicle was at a specified time idling at a specified location in contravention of section 5;

(b) that a specified person was at a specified time the driver of a specified motor vehicle;

(c) that a specified address was at a specified time the address of the specified person referred to in paragraph (b);

- (d) that payment of the fixed penalty for a contravention specified in a specified demand notice had not been made before a specified date; and
 - (e) (if applicable) that the person specified in the demand notice referred to in paragraph (d) had not notified the Authority before a specified date of his or her wish to dispute liability for the contravention.
- (3) Unless there is evidence to the contrary—
- (a) it must be presumed that the certificate was signed by or for the Authority; and
 - (b) the certificate is evidence of the facts stated in it.

25. Distress for non-payment

(1) If a person fails to pay any part of a judgment amount within one month after the date of the order to pay the amount, a magistrate, on an application made in the name of the Secretary for Justice, may order that the following amounts be levied on any goods of the person by distress and sale—

- (a) the judgment amount or, if the application under this section is in respect of more than one judgment amount, the total of those amounts; and
- (b) the costs of the application for an order under this section (being an amount not less than \$50 or more than the amount of the fixed penalty).

(2) An application under this section may be made in the absence of the person and the Secretary for Justice may appoint any person or class of persons to make it.

26. Power to rescind order on application by the Authority

At any time, a magistrate may for good cause, on an application made by the Authority, rescind—

- (a) any order for the payment of a fixed penalty, an additional penalty or costs; and
- (b) any other order made under this Ordinance in the same proceedings.

PART 4**GENERAL****27. Powers and functions of authorized officers**

(1) The powers and functions of authorized officers under this Ordinance may be exercised or performed on all roads including private roads.

(2) The powers and functions of traffic wardens and senior traffic wardens under this Ordinance are in addition to any powers and functions they have under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) or any other Ordinance.

28. Protection of the Authority and authorized officers

(1) The Authority or an authorized officer is not personally liable for anything done or omitted to be done by the Authority or officer in good faith in the exercise of a power or performance of a function or purported exercise of a power or purported performance of a function under this Ordinance.

(2) The protection conferred by subsection (1) does not affect any liability of the Government for the act or omission.

29. Obstruction of authorized officers

A person who obstructs an authorized officer in the exercise of a power or performance of a function under this Ordinance commits an offence and is liable to a fine at level 4 and to imprisonment for 6 months.

30. Delegation by the Authority

The Authority may, in writing, delegate any power or function of the Authority under this Ordinance (including this power of delegation) to a public officer.

31. Regulations

The Secretary for the Environment may make regulations—

- (a) prescribing any notice or certificate for the purposes of this Ordinance;
- (b) specifying how fixed penalties and other amounts payable under this Ordinance may be paid, the information to be supplied by persons paying them and the duties of persons receiving them;

- (c) providing for the erection or placement of traffic signs for the purposes of this Ordinance; and
- (d) providing generally for the better carrying out of this Ordinance.

32. Amendment of Schedules

The Secretary for the Environment may, by notice published in the Gazette, amend Schedule 1 or 2.

SCHEDULE 1

[ss. 5(2)(a) & 32]

DRIVERS TO WHOM IDLING PROHIBITION DOES NOT APPLY

1. Vehicles generally

Section 5 does not apply to—

- (a) a driver of a motor vehicle that is stationary because of traffic conditions;
- (b) a driver of a motor vehicle who cannot prevent the vehicle from idling because of a mechanical difficulty over which the driver has no control; or
- (c) a driver of a motor vehicle while a person (other than the driver) is boarding or alighting from the vehicle.

2. Taxis, green and red minibuses and buses

- (1) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a taxi that is—
 - (a) within the designated area of a taxi stand; or
 - (b) in a queue of taxis any of which is moving into a taxi stand.
- (2) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a green minibus at a green minibus stand if the minibus is the first or second minibus on a particular scheduled service at the stand.
- (3) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a red minibus at a red minibus stand if—
 - (a) the minibus is the first or second red minibus at the stand;
 - (b) any passenger is on board; or
 - (c) the minibus is immediately behind another red minibus at the stand that has any passenger on board.
- (4) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a bus, other than a franchised bus, that has any passenger on board.
- (5) In this section—

- “bus” (巴士) has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374);
- “designated area” (指定範圍) of a taxi stand, means an area at the taxi stand indicated by traffic signs erected or placed in accordance with a regulation made under section 31(c);
- “franchised bus” (專利巴士) means a bus in respect of which a franchise is in force under the Public Bus Services Ordinance (Cap. 230);
- “green minibus” (綠色小巴) means a public light bus on a scheduled service;
- “green minibus stand” (綠色小巴士站) means, subject to subsection (6), an area of road that is designated under the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D) as a stand for public light buses on a scheduled service only;
- “public light bus” (公共小巴) has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374);
- “red minibus” (紅色小巴) means a public light bus on a service other than a scheduled service;
- “red minibus stand” (紅色小巴士站) means, subject to subsection (6), an area of road that is designated under the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D) as a stand for public light buses on a service other than a scheduled service;
- “scheduled service” (專綫服務) has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D);
- “taxi” (的士) has the same meaning as in the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374);
- “taxi stand” (的士站) has, subject to subsection (6), the same meaning as in the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D).

(6) For the purposes of this section, an area of road is not a taxi stand, green minibus stand or red minibus stand at any time when a suspension is in force in relation to the area under regulation 32 of the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D).

3. Vehicles idling for medical, emergency or law enforcement purposes

- (1) Section 5 does not apply to—
 - (a) a driver of a medical, emergency or law enforcement vehicle if idling the vehicle is necessary for conducting an operational activity (including a training activity) for or related to medical, emergency or law enforcement purposes; or
 - (b) a driver of a motor vehicle who is assisting in an emergency or accident if idling the vehicle is necessary for that purpose.
- (2) In this section—

“medical, emergency or law enforcement vehicle” (醫療、緊急或執法車輛)
means a motor vehicle used by any of the following bodies—

- (a) the Auxiliary Medical Service;
- (b) the Civil Aid Service;
- (c) the Correctional Services Department;
- (d) the Customs and Excise Department;
- (e) the Fire Services Department;
- (f) the Fish Marketing Organization;
- (g) the Government Flying Service;
- (h) the Hong Kong Police Force;
- (i) the Hong Kong St. John Ambulance;
- (j) the Hospital Authority;
- (k) the Immigration Department;
- (l) the Independent Commission Against Corruption.

4. **Vehicles carrying live animals idling for operational needs or protecting public health**

(1) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a motor vehicle for a specified body, or for or as a contractor of a specified body, if—

- (a) the vehicle is carrying any live animals; and
- (b) idling the vehicle is necessary for conducting an operational activity or protecting public health.

(2) In this section—

“contractor” (承辦商) includes service provider;

“operational activity” (運作活動)—

- (a) in relation to a specified department, means an activity conducted for the purpose of the operations of the department;
- (b) in relation to a specified licence or permit holder, means an activity conducted under the holder’s licence, permit or special permit;

“specified body” (指明團體) means—

- (a) a specified department; or
- (b) a specified licence or permit holder;

“specified department” (指明部門) means—

- (a) the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department;
- (b) the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; or
- (c) the Leisure and Cultural Services Department;

“specified licence or permit holder” (指明牌照或許可證的持有人) means the holder of a licence, permit or special permit granted or issued under any of the following provisions—

- (a) regulation 57A of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) Regulations (Cap. 139 sub. leg. A);
- (b) regulation 5(1) of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Animal Traders) Regulations (Cap. 139 sub. leg. B);
- (c) regulation 4(1) or 8(1) of the Public Health (Animals and Birds) (Exhibitions) Regulations (Cap. 139 sub. leg. F);
- (d) regulation 5(1) of the Public Health (Animals) (Boarding Establishment) Regulations (Cap. 139 sub. leg. I);
- (e) regulation 5(1) of the Public Health (Animals) (Riding Establishment) Regulations (Cap. 139 sub. leg. J);
- (f) section 12 of the Rabies Regulation (Cap. 421 sub. leg. A).

5. Security transit vehicles

(1) Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a security transit vehicle if idling the vehicle is necessary for providing armoured transportation services.

(2) In this section—

“security transit vehicle” (護衛押運車輛) means a motor vehicle operated by a licensee within the meaning of the Security and Guarding Services Ordinance (Cap. 460) for the provision of armoured transportation services.

6. Garrison vehicles

Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a motor vehicle of the Hong Kong Garrison of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army if idling the vehicle is necessary for conducting an operational activity (including a training activity) of the Garrison.

7. Vehicles necessarily idling for certain purposes

Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a motor vehicle if—

- (a) the vehicle is lawfully designed primarily for a purpose other than the carriage of the driver, any passengers and their personal effects; and
- (b) idling the vehicle is necessary for a purpose for which the vehicle is primarily designed.

Examples:

1. A refrigerator truck carrying perishable freight that is required to be kept at a low temperature.
2. A tipper lorry that is required to idle to operate a tipping system for loading and unloading refuse.

3. A recovery vehicle that is required to idle to provide vehicle recovery and towing services.
4. A refuse collection vehicle that is required to idle to provide refuse collection services.
5. A street washing vehicle that is required to idle to provide street washing services.

8. Emissions testing or repairs

Section 5 does not apply to a driver of a motor vehicle if idling the vehicle is necessary for—

- (a) testing the vehicle in accordance with a requirement under section 77B of the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) or to determine whether the vehicle complies with the Air Pollution Control (Vehicle Design Standards) (Emission) Regulations (Cap. 311 sub. leg. J); or
- (b) carrying out on the vehicle any maintenance, repairs or other works that is or are necessary to enable the vehicle to be removed without undue delay.

SCHEDULE 2

[ss. 2 & 32]

THE AUTHORITY AND AUTHORIZED OFFICERS

Column 1	Column 2
Authority	Authorized officers
Director of Environmental Protection	Traffic Warden Senior Traffic Warden Environmental Protection Inspector Senior Environmental Protection Inspector Chief Environmental Protection Inspector

Explanatory Memorandum

The purposes of this Bill are to prohibit the idling of motor vehicles, provide exemptions from the prohibition, impose a fixed penalty for contravention of the prohibition and provide for recovery of the fixed penalty.

2. Clause 1 sets out the short title of the Bill and provides for commencement on a day to be appointed.
3. Clause 2 defines certain terms used in the Bill. A number of terms are defined by reference to definitions contained in the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374).
4. Clause 3 provides for the Bill to apply to all motor vehicles and drivers in the HKSAR, including those of the Government and of the Offices set up by the Central People's Government in the HKSAR.
5. Clause 4 describes what constitutes idling. A motor vehicle is idling if any internal combustion engine forming part of, attached to or situated in or on the vehicle is operating while the vehicle is stationary.
6. Clause 5 prohibits the driver of a motor vehicle from causing or permitting it to be idling on a road for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period. The idling prohibition does not apply to drivers referred to in Schedule 1, or drivers or classes of drivers who are exempted under clause 6.
7. Clause 6 empowers the Director of Environmental Protection to exempt drivers or classes of drivers from the idling prohibition.
8. Clause 7 imposes a fixed penalty of \$320 on a person who contravenes the idling prohibition. The amount of the fixed penalty may be amended by resolution of the Legislative Council. The clause also makes it clear that contravention of the prohibition is not an offence.
9. Clause 8 allows an authorized officer who has reason to believe that a person is contravening or has contravened the idling prohibition to give the person a penalty notice. It may be given personally or by affixing it to the motor vehicle. Schedule 2 specifies who is an authorized officer.
10. Clause 9 allows an authorized officer who has reason to believe that a person is contravening or has contravened the idling prohibition to require the person to supply personal details (such as their name and contact information) and produce proof of identity and a driving licence or permit (if they have one), for the purpose of issuing or serving a summons or other document in relation to the contravention. It is an offence to fail to comply with this requirement without reasonable excuse.
11. Clause 10 creates an offence for a person to supply any information that he or she knows to be false or misleading in response to a requirement of an authorized officer under clause 9(1).

12. Clause 11 provides for the Authority to serve a demand notice on a person who fails to pay a fixed penalty within 21 days after being given a penalty notice, or who refuses to accept a penalty notice. Schedule 2 specifies who is the Authority. The demand notice will demand payment of the fixed penalty within 10 days after the date of service of the notice. Alternatively, the person may notify the Authority within 10 days after the date of service if the person wishes to dispute liability. A 6-month time limit is imposed on serving a demand notice.

13. Clause 12 provides for the withdrawal of a penalty notice or demand notice and the refund of any penalty paid under a notice that is withdrawn.

14. Clause 13 provides that, if a demand notice served under clause 11 is not acted on, a magistrate, on an application made in the name of the Secretary for Justice and production of specified documents, must order payment of the fixed penalty, an additional penalty equal to the fixed penalty, and costs of \$300. The amount of costs may be amended by resolution of the Legislative Council.

15. Clause 14 provides for a person to apply for review of an order made against them under clause 13.

16. Clause 15 provides for the conduct of a review of an order made under clause 13 on application under clause 14. The magistrate may rescind the order if satisfied that the demand notice did not come to the personal attention of the applicant without any fault on the part of the applicant. If the applicant wishes to dispute liability for the contravention, the magistrate must order the matter to be dealt with by complaint under Division 4. If not, the magistrate must order the applicant to pay the fixed penalty within 10 days and that, if the applicant fails to do so, the applicant must pay the fixed penalty, an additional penalty equal to the fixed penalty, and costs of \$300. The amount of costs may be amended by resolution of the Legislative Council.

17. Clause 16 provides for proceedings if a person notifies the Authority that he or she wishes to dispute liability for a contravention of the idling prohibition, or a magistrate makes an order under clause 15(2) on a review. In those cases, proceedings will take place before a magistrate on a complaint made in the name of the Secretary for Justice. A 6-month time limit is imposed on making a complaint.

18. Clause 17 provides for the issue and service of a summons under section 8 of the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227) on a person who is the subject of a complaint made under clause 16.

19. Clause 18 provides for a complaint to be heard in the absence of the defendant if the defendant does not appear at the time and place of the hearing or at an adjourned hearing. The clause also provides for proof of the complaint at a hearing held in the defendant's absence.

20. Clause 19 provides for the hearing of a complaint by adopting the powers in the Magistrates Ordinance (Cap. 227) for a magistrate hearing a complaint. The clause also imposes certain requirements on the defendant.

21. Clause 20 provides for an additional penalty (equal to the fixed penalty) to be imposed on a defendant if the complaint is heard in the defendant's absence or the defendant offers no defence, or a defence that is frivolous or vexatious.

22. Clause 21 permits a magistrate to make a costs order on a complaint. If a complaint is dismissed, costs may be awarded against the complainant. In other cases, costs may be awarded against the person ordered to pay the fixed penalty. An order for costs may be between \$600 and \$1,500. Those amounts may be amended by resolution of the Legislative Council.

23. Clause 22 allows a complaint to be discontinued by the complainant at any stage before the magistrate commences to hear it. This does not require leave of the magistrate.

24. Clause 23 enables a person to pay a fixed penalty after the service of a summons for a complaint but at least 2 clear working days before the scheduled hearing. The person must also pay an additional penalty equal to the fixed penalty, and costs of \$500. The amount of costs may be amended by resolution of the Legislative Council.

25. Clause 24 provides for an evidentiary certificate for use in proceedings under the Bill. Unless there is evidence to the contrary, the certificate is evidence of the facts stated in it.

26. Clause 25 provides for a magistrate to make a distress order if a person does not pay an amount under the Bill within one month after being ordered to pay it. On an application made in the name of the Secretary for Justice, a magistrate may order that the amount and an amount for costs be levied on the person's goods by distress and sale.

27. Clause 26 allows a magistrate, for good cause, to rescind any order made under the Bill. This power is exercisable on an application by the Authority.

28. Clause 27 ensures that the powers and functions of authorized officers under the Bill may be exercised or performed on private roads as well as public roads. The clause also clarifies that the powers and functions of traffic wardens and senior traffic wardens under the Bill are in addition to any other powers and functions they have under other legislation.
29. Clause 28 protects the Authority and authorized officers from personal liability for acts or omissions in good faith while exercising powers or performing functions under the Bill. However, it does not affect any liability the Government may have for those acts or omissions.
30. Clause 29 creates an offence. It is an offence to obstruct an authorized officer who is exercising powers or performing functions under the Bill.
31. Clause 30 enables the Authority to delegate powers or functions under the Bill to a public officer.
32. Clause 31 enables regulations to be made by the Secretary for the Environment for the purposes of the Bill.
33. Clause 32 enables the Secretary for the Environment to amend Schedule 1 or 2 by notice published in the Gazette.
34. Schedule 1 sets out certain circumstances in which the idling prohibition does not apply. These include where a motor vehicle is stationary because of traffic conditions or where a person other than the driver is boarding or alighting. Idling is also permitted in certain circumstances for motor vehicles such as taxis, minibuses and non-franchised buses and certain other types of vehicle.
35. Schedule 2 specifies the Authority and authorized officers.