政府總部香港下亞厘畢道



GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
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HONG KONG

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22 October 2009

The Hon Miriam LAU Kin-yee, GBS, JP Chairman House Committee Legislative Council 8 Jackson Road, Central Hong Kong

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Legislative Programme 2009-10

Attached is a list of bills which the Administration intends to introduce into the Legislative Council in the current legislative session.

The Legislative Programme serves as an indication of the Administration's intention at this stage, and may be adjusted during the course of the legislative session. This notwithstanding, we hope that Members will find the Programme helpful in planning their work ahead.

James Sincerely, Scripter Shall (Miss Jennifer Mak)

Director of Administration

Encl.

c.c. Clerk to the House Committee

Legislative Programme 2009-10

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2009-10 legislative session. The bills to be introduced and the timing indicated below are subject to change in the light of the state of readiness of the bills and changing circumstances.

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
1.	Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	• To enhance the transparency of the existing licensing regime for sound broadcasting services by prescribing the licensing criteria and enabling the Broadcasting Authority to issue guidelines.	CEDB	1 st half
2.	Toys and Children's Products Safety (Amendment) Bill	• To update the safety standards applicable to toys and children's products and improve the mechanism for updating.	CEDB	1 st half
3.	Communications Authority Bill	• To establish the Communications Authority (CA) as the unified regulator for the electronic communications sector. The Telecommunications Authority and the Broadcasting Authority will be merged to become the CA.	CEDB	2 nd half

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
4.	Competition Bill	• To establish a statutory framework for regulating anti-competitive conduct, with a view to promoting free and healthy competition in Hong Kong to the benefit of the economy and consumers.	CEDB	2 nd half
5.	Buildings (Amendment) Bill	• To amend the Buildings Ordinance to introduce a mandatory building inspection scheme and a mandatory window inspection scheme in order to improve building and window safety.	DEVB	1 st half
6.	Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Bill	• To introduce limited liability partnerships (LLP) for solicitors' practice in Hong Kong. LLP is a model for doing business which confers limited liability on innocent partners so as to insulate their personal assets from claims incurred by negligence of other partners.	DoJ	1 st half
7.	Matrimonial Proceedings and Property (Amendment) Bill	• To amend the Matrimonial Proceedings and Property Ordinance giving Hong Kong courts the power to deal with ancillary relief matters after recognition of a decree of divorce granted outside Hong Kong.	DoJ	2 nd half

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
8.	Buildings Energy Efficiency Bill	• To promote the improvement of energy efficiency and conservation in buildings by introducing the mandatory compliance with the Building Energy Codes.	ENB	1 st half
9.	Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Bill	• To require drivers to stop the engines of their idling vehicles. Any driver who contravenes this requirement will be liable to a fixed penalty.	ENB	1 st half
10.	Food Safety Bill	 To provide for new control tools to enhance food safety. 	FHB	2 nd half
11.	Public Health and Municipal Services (Amendment) Bill	• To empower the Secretary for Food and Health to make regulations for the control of the Poultry Slaughtering Centre and the slaughter of birds.	FHB	2 nd half
12.	A bill to amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance and Stamp Duty Ordinance	• To put in place a level playing field for the issue and transaction of common types of Islamic bonds vis-à-vis conventional bonds as far as tax arrangements are concerned.	FSTB	2 nd half

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
13.	Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Measures (Financial Institutions) Bill	• To bring Hong Kong's anti-money laundering and counter financing of terrorism regime for financial sectors in line with international standards.	FSTB	2 nd half
14.	Business Registration (Amendment) Bill	• To provide for simultaneous application for company incorporation/registration and business registration.	FSTB	2 nd half
15.	Companies (Amendment) Bill	 To facilitate the implementation of electronic filing and incorporation of companies upon Companies Registry's implementation of Phase II of the Integrated Companies Registry Information System. To expedite the company name registration process and to allow the Registrar of Companies to 	FSTB	2 nd half
		of Companies to implement measures to tackle the problems arising from the registration of companies with names involving famous brand names or trade marks ("shadow companies").		

Indicative

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
16.	Deposit Protection Scheme (Amendment) Bill	• To effect the relevant enhancement measures as recommended in the review of the Deposit Protection Scheme with a view to strengthening the protection for depositors.	FSTB	2 nd half
17.	Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill	• To allow taxpayers (and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue) to lodge direct appeals to the court against the decisions of the Board of Review on questions of law without the need to have the Board to agree to state a case for the court's consideration.	FSTB	2 nd half
		• To empower the Board of Review to give directions and to sanction any non-compliance in order to smooth the operation of the Board.		
18.	Employment (Amendment) Bill	• To remove the requirement for an employer's agreement to the making of an order for reinstatement or re-engagement of an employee who has been dismissed unreasonably and unlawfully, and to require the employer to pay a further sum to the employee for failing to comply with such an order.	LWB	1 st half

	Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative Timing within 2009-10 Legislative Session
19.	Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Bill	• To regulate the operation of all residential care homes for persons with disabilities in the territory.	LWB	2 nd half
20.	Import and Export (Amendment) Bill	 To strengthen control over smuggling activities at sea. 	SB	1 st half
21.	Immigration (Amendment) Bill	• To introduce a statutory mechanism for handling claims for protection under the United Nations' Convention Against Torture, from persons who resist repatriation on account of torture risk in their home countries.	SB	2 nd half
22.	Road Traffic Legislation (Amendment) Bill	• To introduce a package of measures to combat drink driving and other inappropriate driving behaviour, and to enhance road safety.	THB	2 nd half

Administration Wing Chief Secretary for Administration's Office October 2009