

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS46/14-15

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
on 27 February 2015**

**Legal Service Division Report on
Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 25 February 2015**

Tabling in LegCo : Council meeting of 18 March 2015

Amendment to be made by : Council meeting of 15 April 2015 (or that of
6 May 2015 if extended by resolution)

Rating (Exemption) Order 2015 (L.N. 42)

The Order was made by the Chief Executive (CE) in Council under section 36(2) of the Rating Ordinance (Cap. 116) to give effect to the rates concession proposed in paragraph 26(c)¹ of the Budget Speech.

2. Section 36(2) of Cap. 116 provides that the CE in Council may, by order, declare any class of tenements, or parts thereof, or any part of Hong Kong to be exempted from the payment of rates wholly or in part. The Order declares that all tenements are exempted from the payment of rates in respect of any quarter in the period from 1 April 2015 to 30 September 2015 wholly, if the amount of rates payable for the quarter is \$2,500 or less, or up to \$2,500, if the amount is more than \$2,500. The amount of \$2,500 is reduced on a pro rata basis if rates are payable for only part of the concession period.

3. The Order comes into operation on 1 April 2015.

4. As advised by the Clerk to the Panel on Financial Affairs, the Panel has not been consulted on the Order.

¹ According to paragraph 26(c) of the Budget Speech, the proposed rates concession is estimated to benefit around 3.15 million properties, and would cost the Government about \$7.7 billion.

5. No difficulties have been identified in relation to the legal and drafting aspects of the Order.

Prepared by

Clara TAM
Assistant Legal Adviser
Legislative Council Secretariat
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