

香港特別行政區政府  
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



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The Government of  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Administration Wing,  
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

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13 October 2014

The Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP  
Chairman  
House Committee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road,  
Central  
Hong Kong

*Dear Chairman,*

**2014-15 Legislative Programme**

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

The Legislative Programme serves as an indication of the Government'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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Choi'.

( Ms Kitty Choi )  
Director of Administration

Encl.

cc Clerk to the House Committee

**Legislative Programme 2014-15**

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2014-15 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.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Purpose of the Bill</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Indicative timing within 2014-15 legislative session</b>
1. <b>Patents (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To introduce an “original grant” patent system, to refine the short-term patent system, and to provide for related matters and miscellaneous updates.</li> </ul>	CEDB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
2. <b>Electoral Legislation (Disqualification Provisions)(Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To amend the electoral legislation (including the Legislative Council Ordinance, the District Councils Ordinance, the Rural Representative Election Ordinance and subsidiary legislation under the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance) concerning the disqualification of convicts or persons sentenced to imprisonment from being candidates at an election or from holding office, and other related matters.</li> </ul>	CMAB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
3. <b>Legislative Council (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To introduce technical amendments to update the electorate of functional constituencies; and subject to the public consultation on the method for forming the Legislative Council in 2016, to introduce amendments in relation to geographical constituencies and functional constituencies, if necessary.</li> </ul>	CMAB	1 <sup>st</sup> half <sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup> The timing may be adjusted having regard to the public consultation on the method for forming the Legislative Council in 2016.

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2014-15 legislative session
4. <b>Arbitration (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To amend the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap.609) so as to: (a) make it clear that parties opting for domestic arbitration and specifying the number of arbitrators in the arbitration agreement may still retain their rights by virtue of section 100 of Cap.609 to seek the Court’s assistance for matters set out in sections 2 to 7 of Schedule 2 of Cap.609; and (b) update the list of state parties to the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards (1958) (“New York Convention”) as set out in the Arbitration (Parties to New York Convention) Order.</li> </ul>	DoJ	1 <sup>st</sup> half
5. <b>District Cooling Services Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide for matters relating to district cooling services provided by the Government, including the imposition of charges for the services; and other related matters.</li> </ul>	ENB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
6. <b>Product Eco-responsibility (Electrical and Electronic Equipment) (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To implement the new producer responsibility scheme for the proper management of locally generated waste electrical and electronic equipment.</li> </ul>	ENB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
7. <b>Product Eco-responsibility (Product Container) (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To implement the new producer responsibility scheme for the proper management of locally generated glass beverage bottles.</li> </ul>	ENB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2014-15 legislative session
8. <b>Human Reproductive Technology (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To prohibit advertisements related to sex selection through reproductive technology.</li> </ul>	FHB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
9. <b>Bankruptcy (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reform the regulatory regime to deal with absconders in order to ensure the integrity of the bankruptcy regime.</li> </ul>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
10. <b>Clearing and Settlement Systems (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To amend the Clearing and Settlement Systems Ordinance in order to establish a new regulatory regime for stored value facilities and retail payment systems with a view to enhancing protection for users as well as the safety and soundness of retail payment products and services in Hong Kong.</li> </ul>	FSTB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
11. <b>Companies (Winding-up and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve Hong Kong's corporate insolvency and winding-up regime and bring it in line with other major jurisdictions so as to increase protection of creditors, facilitate more efficient administration of the winding-up process and enhance regulation of the winding-up process.</li> </ul>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
12. <b>Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To extend the existing profits tax exemption for offshore funds to private equity funds.</li> </ul>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
13. <b>Inland Revenue (Amendment) (No.2) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To allow taxpayers and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue to lodge direct appeals to court against the decisions of the Board of Review</li> </ul>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2014-15 legislative session
	(Inland Revenue Ordinance)(“the Board”) on questions of law without having the Board to agree to state a case for the court’s consideration; to empower the Board to give directions and sanction non-compliance with the directions; and to provide privileges and immunities to the Chairman, Deputy Chairmen and members of the Board, as well as to witness, party to any proceedings and representative of other persons appearing before the Board.		
14. <b>Securities and Futures (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To allow the Securities and Futures Commission to provide supervisory assistance to overseas regulators and to refine certain technical provisions in the Securities and Futures Ordinance.</li> </ul>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
15. <b>Stamp Duty (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To implement the stamp duty waiver for the transfer of shares or units of all exchange traded funds as proposed in the 2014-15 Budget.</li> </ul>	FSTB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
16. <b>Peak Tramway (Amendment) Bill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide for the long-term arrangements for the operation of the peak tramway after end-2015, on expiry of the current two-year operating right.</li> </ul>	THB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half

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Chief Secretary for Administration’s Office  
October 2014