## 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS72/16-17

## Paper for the House Committee Meeting on 9 June 2017

## Legal Service Division Report on Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 2 June 2017

**Tabling in LegCo** : Council meeting of 7 June 2017

**Amendment to be made by**: Council meeting of 5 July 2017 (or the first

meeting of the next session if extended by

resolution)

## **Travel Agents (Fee Concessions) Regulation 2017**

(L.N. 106)

L.N. 106 is made by the Chief Executive in Council under section 50(2) of the Travel Agents Ordinance (Cap. 218) and section 29 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1). It provides for concessions on certain fees payable by a travel agent under the First Schedule to the Travel Agents Regulations (Cap. 218A) for a period of 12 months beginning on 20 November 2017 ("the concession period"). Details of the concessions are set out below:

- (a) the fee of HK\$630 for an application for a travel agent's licence is waived if the application is made within the concession period;
- (b) the fee for a licence or the renewal of a licence is waived if the term of the licence or renewed licence begins within the concession period, subject to a maximum amount of HK\$5,820 (i.e. HK\$485(per month) x 12) in aggregate;
- (c) the fee of HK\$665 for amending a licence to permit the carrying on of the business of the travel agent at an additional address from a date within the concession period is waived; and

- (d) the fee of HK\$925 for the issue of a duplicate of a licence to permit the carrying on of the business of the travel agent at more than one address is waived if the term or renewed term of the licence indicated on the duplicate begins within the concession period, or if the duplicate is for display at an additional address permitted, from a date within the concession period, for carrying on the business of the travel agent.
- 2. According to the Legislative Council Brief (File Ref: TAR CR 4/60/1/3 Pt.1) issued by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau on 31 May 2017, the concessions are part of the short term measures announced by the Financial Secretary in his 2017-18 Budget Speech to relieve the travel trade from its hardship in a challenging year. The concessions would lead to revenue forgone of about \$11.3 million.
- 3. As advised by the Clerk to the Panel on Economic Development, the Panel was not consulted specifically on L.N. 106.
- 4. L.N. 106 comes into operation on 20 November 2017.
- 5. No difficulties have been identified in the legal and drafting aspects of L.N. 106.

Prepared by

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