

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
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17 October 2016

The Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Chairman
House Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

2016-17 Legislative Programme

Attached is a list of bills which the Government intends to introduce to the Legislative Council in the 2016-17 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 cursive script, appearing to read "Kitty Choi".

(Ms Kitty Choi)
Director of Administration

Encl.

cc Clerk to the House Committee

2016-17 Legislative Programme

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2016-17 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 2016-17 legislative session
1. Travel Industry Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the establishment of an independent statutory body called the Travel Industry Authority and the legislative framework for the licensing and regulation of travel agents, tourist guides and tour escorts. 	CEDB	2 nd half
2. Arbitration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap. 609) so as to make it clear that disputes over intellectual property rights (“IPRs”) are capable of resolution by arbitration and it would not be contrary to public policy to enforce an arbitral award solely because the award is in respect of a dispute or matter which concerns IPRs. 	DoJ	1 st half
3. Arbitration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap. 609) to state that third party funding for arbitration is permitted under Hong Kong law. 	DoJ	1 st half
4. Apology Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote and encourage the making of apologies in order to facilitate the amicable settlement of disputes by clarifying the legal consequences of making an apology. 	DoJ	1 st half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2016-17 legislative session
5. Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bill is an omnibus bill proposing miscellaneous amendments which are largely minor, technical and non-controversial to various Ordinances and subsidiary legislation. One of the key amendments seeks to amend the Criminal Procedure Ordinance (Cap. 221) and the Live Television Link and Video Recorded Evidence Rules (Cap. 221 sub. Leg. J) to give the court a discretion, on its own motion or on application, to permit complainants of certain sexual offences to give evidence by way of a live television link, so as to enhance the protection to such complainants during court proceedings. 	DoJ	2 nd half
6. Waterworks (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Waterworks Ordinance (Cap. 102) to enable suitably qualified and capable persons, in addition to licenced plumbers, to construct, install, maintain, alter, repair and remove fire services and inside services. 	DEVB	2 nd half
7. Waste Disposal (Charging for Municipal Solid Waste) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the municipal solid waste charging scheme, which aims at creating a financial incentive to drive behavioural changes in waste generation and reducing the overall waste disposal in Hong Kong. 	ENB	2 nd half
8. Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) to phase 	ENB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2016-17 legislative session
Plants (Amendment) Bill	out the local trade of ivory, and impose heavier penalties on smuggling and illegal trading of endangered species.		
9. Chinese Medicine (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To confer statutory power on the Director of Health to order any relevant person to recall from the market any proprietary Chinese medicine, Chinese herbal medicine or product or substance presented as proprietary Chinese medicine or Chinese herbal medicine which may pose threats to public health. 	FHB	2 nd half
10. Medical Devices Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To protect public health by regulating the supply and use of medical devices in Hong Kong. 	FHB	2 nd half
11. Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase lay membership in the Medical Council of Hong Kong (MCHK) for enhanced accountability and transparency; improve its complaint handling and disciplinary inquiry mechanism for greater effectiveness and credibility, and enable MCHK to approve applications for limited registration from not more than one year to not more than three years. 	FHB	2 nd half
12. Private Columbaria Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To introduce a licensing regime for regulating private columbaria in Hong Kong. 	FHB	1 st half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2016-17 legislative session
13. Private Healthcare Facilities Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To revamp the regulatory regime for private healthcare facilities amid the evolving landscape of healthcare services. The Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance (Cap. 165) and the Medical Clinics Ordinance (Cap. 343) will be repealed accordingly. 	FHB	2 nd half
14. Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Bill <i>(tentative)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To turn the Financial Reporting Council into a full-fledged independent oversight body of auditors of listed entities in Hong Kong by benchmarking against international standards and practices, with a view to enabling Hong Kong to become a member of the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators. 	FSTB	2 nd half
15. Employment (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Employment Ordinance so that, for an unreasonable and unlawful dismissal, the employer's agreement is not a pre-requisite for ordering reinstatement or re-engagement, a failure to comply with the order entails an additional liability to pay a further sum and a failure to pay the sum is covered by the offence under its section 43P; to clarify, and supplement as necessary, provisions on engagement by the employer's successor or associated company under an order for re-engagement; and to provide for incidental and connected matters. 	LWB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2016-17 legislative session
16. Fire Services (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Fire Services Ordinance to empower the Chief Executive in Council to make regulation to provide for the proposed Registered Fire Engineer Scheme, and to enable the Director of Fire Services to regulate registered fire engineers. 	SB	1 st half
17. Cross-boundary Transportation of Large Quantities of Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instruments Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To establish a reporting system to detect the physical cross-boundary transportation of large quantities of currency and bearer negotiable instruments into and out of Hong Kong for the purpose of combating money laundering and terrorist financing, pursuant to Recommendation 32 of the Financial Action Task Force. 	SB	1 st half
18. Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to introduce tax incentives to strengthen Hong Kong's competitiveness in attracting offshore aircraft leasing business to Hong Kong. 	THB	2 nd half
19. Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To revise the maximum seating capacity of a light bus under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374), and to make consequential amendments. 	THB	2 nd half

Administration Wing
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office
October 2016