

ECON 4/3231/66(99) Pt.21

CB1/BC/14/98

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18 September 1999

Clerk to Bills Committee  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn. : Miss Salumi CHAN)

**Fax No. 2869 6794**

Dear Miss Chan,

**Bill Committee on**  
**Shipping and Port Control (Amendment) Bill 1999**  
***Third meeting on 23 September 1999***

Thank you for your letter of 27 July 1999.

Regarding the Hong Kong Stevedores Employers' Association's submission on the Bill, we would like to respond as follows –

- (a) The proposed increase of penalty charges in the Bill aims to enhance the deterrent effects so as to minimize the number of marine industrial accidents. It is our plan to implement the proposed increase only after the codes of practice are put in place. This should allow time for the trade to get prepared for the eventual implementation of this provision in the Bill.
- (b) We would continue to work together with the industry to improve occupational safety and health of the industry.

Yours sincerely,

( Peter KWOK )

for Secretary for Economic Services

c.c. Director of Marine