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By Fax No. 28691302

22 October 1998

Mr. Geoffrey Fox Senior Assistant Law Draftsman Department of Justice 8/F High Block Queensway Government Offices Hong Kong

Dear Mr. Fox,

Evidence (Amendment) Bill 1998

I refer to the draft Committee stage amendments on the above Bill which have been brought to my attention.

By adding the proposed section 47A, does the Administration intend to adopt the notice requirement as provided in the English Civil Evidence Act 1995? If so, please explain why new section 47A(1)(a) differs from the corresponding section (section 2(2)(a)) in the 1995 Act?

In the light of the proposed section 47A, will consequential amendments be made in this Bill to the High Court Ordinance (Cap. 4) and the Rules of the High Court (Cap. 4 sub. leg.)?

I would appreciate it if you could let me have your reply before the next Bills Committee meeting on 29 October 1998.

Yours sincerely,

(Connie Fung) Assistant Legal Adviser

c.c. Mr. Jimmy MA, LA