List of Government Bills to be introduced into LegCo

This document sets out the pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council during the 1998/99 session. The Programme may need to be adjusted during the legislative session in the light of developments to reflect changing priorities.

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Administrative Appeals Board (Amendment) Bill	To improve the operation of the Administrative Appeals Board.	Administration Wing
International Organisation (Privileges and Immunities) Bill	To provide domestic legislation to give effect to international rights and obligations arising from international agreements from the international plane to the domestic plane.	Administration Wing
Legal Practitioners (Amendment) Bill	To bring the Legal Practitioners Ordinance in line with the General Agreement on Trade in Services and to improve the regulation of the practice and discipline of solicitors.	Department of Justice
The Fraud Bill	To implement the Law Reform Commission's proposals to create a substantive offence of fraud and to remove existing anomalies and shortcomings in the relevant area of law.	Department of Justice

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Bill to provide for the election of district organisations	To provide a legal framework for the election of members of district organisations.	Constitutional Affairs Bureau
Amendment bills to provide for the election of the Legislative Council in 2000	To provide a legal framework for the election of members of the Legislative Council in 2000.	Constitutional Affairs Bureau
Amendment to Part V of the Shipping and Port Control Ordinance	To enhance safety in marine industrial activities in view of increase in fatal incidents in cargo handling and ship repairing.	Economic Services Bureau
Amendments to the Marine Fish Culture Ordinance	To legalise the transfer of marine fish culture licences for the development of the marine fish culture industry and to strengthen other provisions for its effective regulation.	Economic Services Bureau
Civil Aviation (Amendment) Bill	To enable the Chief Executive in Council to make regulations requiring operators of civil aircraft to purchase third party insurance.	Economic Services Bureau
Electricity (Amendment) Bill	To deter third parties from damaging underground electricity cables and overhead electricity lines in the interests of electrical safety.	Economic Services Bureau
Merchant Shipping (Prevention and Control of Pollution) (Amendment) Bill 1999	To downgrade the authority of regulation making power under section 3 of the Ordinance from the Chief Executive in Council to the Secretary for Economic Services.	Economic Services Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Bill	To upgrade standards in safety of navigation, vessel construction as well as crew qualifications for local vessels.	Economic Services Bureau
Bill to set up the General Teaching Council (GTC)	To establish a self-regulating professional body for teachers to enhance the standard of teaching and the professional development of teachers.	Education and Manpower Bureau
Vocational Training Council (Amendment) Bill	To allow for changes arising from the Vocational Training Council Strategic Plan's recommendations.	Education and Manpower Bureau
Employees' Compensation (Amendment) Bill	To empower the Commissioner for Labour to determine the compensation with no dispute between the parties concerned, etc.	Education and Manpower Bureau
Industrial Training (Construction Industry) (Amendment) Bill	To enable the Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) to provide training subsidies to students, to raise its training levy and to provide clarification that CITA can carry out trade testing.	Education and Manpower Bureau
Amendment to the Minor Employment Claims Adjudication Board (MECAB) Ordinance	To introduce technical amendments to improve the efficiency of the MECAB.	Education and Manpower Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Amendment) Bill	To introduce mandatory safety training for construction workers and container handling workers with a view to improving the safety standard of these two accident-prone industries and to improve the safety in the operation of earthmoving equipment and forklift trucks by introducing a certification scheme for their operators.	Education and Manpower Bureau
Business Registration (Amendments) Bill	To bring about the new computer system and revamped office procedures to improve the service to the public.	Finance Bureau
Tax Reserve Certificates (Amendment) Bill	To alter the accounting arrangements for money received from the purchase of tax reserve certificates and interest accrued thereto.	Finance Bureau
Banking (Amendment) Bill 1999	To ensure compliance with the Core Principles for Effective Banking Supervision as published by the Basle Committee.	Financial Services Bureau
Introduction of the Euro Bill	To provide a legal basis for continuity of legal obligations after the introduction of the Euro on 1 January 1999.	Financial Services Bureau
Securities (Amendment) (No.2) Bill	To extend the regulation over securities dealers to also cover securities margin finance services providers.	Financial Services Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Trustee (Amendment) Bill	To strengthen the regulatory regime and the registration requirements for registered trust companies.	Financial Services Bureau
Insurance Companies (Amendment) Bill	To enhance the Insurance Authority's ability to have better supervision over insurers.	Financial Services Bureau
Companies (Amendment) Bill 1999	To implement various recommendations of the Standing Committee on Company Law Reform; to update the companies winding-up provisions; and to implement the Law Reform Commission's recommendations on corporate rescue.	Financial Services Bureau
Composite Securities and Futures Bill 1999	To consolidate the existing securities-related ordinances into a composite legislation.	Financial Services Bureau
Securities and Futures Commission (Amendment) Bill 1999	To extend the auditors of listed companies statutory protection to enable them to report reasonable suspicions of fraud to the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.	Financial Services Bureau
Amendment to the Volunteer and Naval Volunteer Pensions Ordinance	To put in place a mechanism to revise the pensions for war veterans in line with civil servant pension adjustment and to allow for backpayment of pensions.	Health and Welfare Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Amendments to the Human Organ Transplant Ordinance & Regulation	To streamline the operation of the Human Organ Transplant Ordinance in the light of practical experience since operation.	Health and Welfare Bureau
Chinese Medicine Bill	To establish a statutory framework for the regulation of the practice, use and trading of Chinese medicine.	Health and Welfare Bureau
Amendments to the Hong Kong Sports Development Board Ordinance	To enable the Hong Kong Sports Development Board to integrate fully the running of the Hong Kong Sports Institute into its operations, thereby allowing for more effective and efficient management and control of the Institute by the Board.	Home Affairs Bureau
Sales descriptions of residential property Bill	To require developers to ensure accuracy of information contained in sales brochures of uncompleted residential flats and provide certain specified information in the brochures.	Housing Bureau
Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) (Amendment) Bill	To simplify tenancy renewal procedures, increase penalties for harassment and unlawful evictions and enhance redevelopment compensation for sub-tenants under the Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) Ordinance.	Housing Bureau
Film Censorship (Amendment) Bill	To make the film censorship regime more user and business friendly.	Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Amendments to the Conveyancing Property Ordinance	To render the disposition of properties affected by unauthorised rooftop structures null and void.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Urban Renewal Authority Bill	To introduce legislation to establish the Urban Renewal Authority.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Town Planning Bill	To improve accountability, efficiency and streamline statutory planning procedures.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Buildings (Amendment) Bill	To put in place various legal requirements concerning building works to enhance public safety.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Amendments to the Noise Control Ordinance	To produce a stronger deterrent effect to abate noise nuisances by extending the liability for offences from a body corporate to the top management and to extend the time bar for laying summons.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill	To rectify the deficiencies of the Waste Disposal Ordinance on the control of certain categories of waste such as clinical waste, and to strengthen the control on the disposal of imported waste.	Planning, Environment and Lands Bureau
Marriage (Certificate of Absence of Marriage Record) Bill 1998	To remove an anomaly arising from the difference between the English and Chinese text of the Marriage Ordinance and the Marriage Reform Ordinance regarding the issue of Certificate of Absence of Marriage Record.	Security Bureau

Purpose of Legislation

Responsible Bureau

Amendments to the Drug Trafficking (Recovery of Proceeds) Ordinance and the Organised and Serious Crimes Ordinance

To remove barriers to prosecutions relating to money laundering cases as contained in the existing provisions of the two Ordinances.

Security Bureau

Bill on licensing system for karaoke establishments

To establish a licensing system for karaoke establishments which will cover fire safety. building safety, public safety and health requirements.

Security Bureau

Immigration (Amendment) Bill

To deter the employment of illegal workers at construction sites by making the site controllers liable to prosecution if a person not lawfully employable is found working on a construction site.

Security Bureau

Firearms and Ammunition (Amendment) Bill

To tighten the control and safety Security Bureau requirements for the possession and use of firearms for recreational or sporting purposes.

A Bill to improve the Disciplined Services Welfare Funds

To amend various Ordinances to Security Bureau modernise and regularise the operation of the disciplined services welfare funds.

Bill on short-term residential rehabilitation programme for young offenders

To introduce legislation to provide for a short-term residential rehabilitation programme for young offenders.

Security Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Amendments to the Dangerous Goods Ordinance	To modernise and update the Dangerous Goods Ordinance to bring it into line with international standard.	Security Bureau
Witness Protection Bill	To put the existing witness protection programmes on a statutory basis, and to facilitate the change of identity of high-risk witnesses.	Security Bureau
Bill on taking of intimate and non-intimate samples	To enhance law enforcement agencies' capability to tackle serious crimes and at the same time protect individuals' rights by providing a legal framework to take intimate samples (e.g. blood) and non-intimate samples (e.g. saliva).	Security Bureau
Bill on child pornography and child sex tourism	To better protect children by introducing legislation against child pornography and child sex tourism.	Security Bureau
Industrial Training (Clothing Industry) (Amendment) Bill	To delete postal lodgement as a method of lodging declarations in respect of exports of clothing items.	Trade and Industry Bureau
Chemical Weapons Convention Bill	To fulfil the obligation under the Chemical Weapons Convention to ban the production, use, development and storage of chemical weapons.	Trade and Industry Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
The Science Park Corporation Bill	To establish by statute the Science Park Corporation to plan, develop and manage the Science Park as an infrastructure for the technological development of Hong Kong's industries.	Trade and Industry Bureau
Bill to establish the Customs and Excise Service Children's Education Trust Fund	To establish an education trust fund to provide assistance in post-secondary education to children of Customs officers.	Trade and Industry Bureau
Protection of Non-Government Certificates of Origin (Amendment) Bill & Import and Export (Amendment) Bill	To provide a legal basis for Production Notification to strengthen the control on illegal transhipment of cut and sewn garments and to enable the use of information technology services, such as electronic data interchange, in the lodgement of PN and application and issue of Certificates of Origin.	Trade and Industry Bureau
Trade Marks Bill	To modernise our trade marks law in accordance with the prevailing international norm, and to streamline our trade marks registration system.	Trade and Industry Bureau
Amendments to Section 41 (Speed Limit) of the Road Traffic Ordinance	To enhance road safety by increasing the penalties on strict liability offences relating to section 41 of the Road Traffic Ordinance on speed limit.	Transport Bureau

Title	Purpose of Legislation	Responsible Bureau
Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill	To streamline the existing enforcement procedure on drink driving, to put private light bus (school bus) under passenger service licence scheme and to revise the arrangements for collection of fees and charges relating to parking meters and vehicle examination centre.	Transport Bureau
Amendment to the Hong Kong Institute of Engineers Ordinance	To restrict the use of the abbreviated title "Ir" which stands for engineer.	Works Bureau