

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS43/99-00

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
of the Legislative Council
on 17 December 1999**

**Legal Service Division Report on
Road Traffic Legislation (Amendment) Bill 1999**

Objects of the Bill

To introduce a probationary driving licence scheme to regulate inexperienced drivers of motor cycles and motor tricycles, and to make consequential amendments to various related ordinances.

LegCo Brief Reference

2. TRAN 3/07/20 Pt. 4 issued by the Transport Bureau on 24 November 1999.

Date of First Reading

3. 8 December 1999.

Comments

4. Under the Road Traffic (Driving Licences) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg.), a person who has passed a driving test may apply for a full driving licence. In view of the high accident rate of inexperienced drivers of motor cycles and motor tricycles, the Administration is proposing that a person who has passed a motor cycle driving test be first issued with a probationary driving licence. The probationary driving period is 12 months. During the period, an inexperienced motor cycle and motor tricycle driver is subject to various requirements prescribed in the Bill. He is required to display a "P" plate at the front and rear of the motor cycle or tricycle, prohibited to carry any passenger, prohibited to drive at a speed of more than 70 kilometres an hour, and prohibited to drive on the offside lane of

an expressway unless certain conditions exist. The probationary driving period will be extended for 6 months if the inexperienced driver committed, during the probationary period, certain traffic offences prescribed in the proposed Twelfth Schedule. There are also provisions in the Bill for the cancellation of a probationary driving licence if the holder has more than once been convicted of an offence in the said Schedule, or convicted of 2 or more offences in the said Schedule.

Public Consultation

5. According to the LegCo Brief, the Administration has consulted the LegCo Panel on Transport, the Transport Advisory Committee and the Road Safety Council.

Consultation with the LegCo Panel

6. The probationary driving licence scheme was discussed at the meeting of the LegCo Panel on Transport on 18 December 1998. During the meeting members of the Panel raised various issues with the Administration.

Conclusion

7. There are a few technical points which the Legal Service Division has raised with the Administration. A further report will be issued in due course.

Prepared by

LEE Yu-sung
Senior Assistant Legal Adviser
Legislative Council Secretariat
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