

STUART-BRADSHAW HEALTH CONSULTANCY

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2/7/99

Michael Ho Mun Ka
Legislative Council Member
3/F I Lin Wan Commercial Bdg.,
25-27 Parkes St., Kowloon
HONG KONG.

Dear Michael,
Thank you for your follow up fax with me on the Chinese Medicine Bill recently. There are several matters regarding the Bill that I think warrant further discussion, mainly to do with prescribing Schedule 2 herbs listed in the Bill. As a Western trained herbalist, those in my profession have been trained in the use of many Oriental herbs, including many listed in Schedule 2 of the Bill.

However there is no confusion as to me practising as a Chinese Herbalist/Acupuncturist, my presentation is as a Naturopath, Homeopath - western terms for our main forms of natural medicine. My training was over 4 years full time. I am a Fellow of the respected Australian Natural Therapists Association as well as a Member of the Australian Federation of Homeopaths. I do not pretend to be qualified in Chinese Medicine.

I have listed the herbs I am sometimes prescribing my patients on the second page. I am seeking exemption from the Bill for myself specifically. Also I will seek for an exemption for bona fide western herbalists, who are practising in Hong Kong to be written as an alteration into the Bill. This may require exemption to be granted by the Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board as there is no similar body to check the qualifications of Herbalists.

I am currently in Australia on leave, and will return to Hong Kong in September. My email is _____, the fax is _____. Any assistance you can render my situation as well as having future generations in mind in this matter will be much appreciated. There is no intention in the Bill of preventing Western Herbalists from practising in Hong Kong, and it would be a pity if this outcome occurred accidentally.

Yours sincerely,
Gracme Stuart-Bradshaw
B.Sc., N.D., Dip Hom., Dip. Herb., F.A.N.T.A., M.A.F.H.

The herbs I Schedule 2 of the Chinese Medicine Bill that are commonly used in my practise and by similar practioners internationally are:

Angelica sinensis herba
 Arctium lappa, root
 Astragalus membranaceus root*
 Atractyloides spp. root
 Boswellia serrata gum (a herb originating from the Indian herbal system)*
 Buplerum chinensis root
 Centella asiaticum herba (a herb from the Indian herbal system too)*
 Cinnamamum cassia (a common spice used internationally, called cinnamon)
 Curcuma longata root (this is a common Indian cooking spice, called turmeric)
 Ephidra sinicia herba*
 Euphorbia hirta or lathyrus herba
 Ginkgo biloba leaf (the most common prescription medicine of Europe now)*
 Ligustricum lucidum fruit
 Lycium Chinense fruit
 Paeonia lactiflora root
 Panax ginseng root*
 Phillanthus embelica fruit
 Phytolacca americana root (actually a western herb listed in Schedule 2)
 Picorhiza scrophulariifolia (used in the Indian herbal system)
 Polygonium spp. herba
 Polygala spp. herba
 Schizandra chinensis or sphenanthera fruit*
 Scutellaria baicalensis herba
 Smilax glabra root (an Internationally grown and used herb)*
 Trigonella foenum-graecum (internationally used spice herb)
 Valeriana officianalis root (a commonly used western herb)*

[You will note some of these herbs, as well as unlisted saffron spice (*Crocus sativa stigma*), are in common use even as culinary spices. I'm not sure whether their listing as Schedule 2 herbs is appropriate. So this is another minor question to be raised about the Bill; is the list of herbs in schedule 2 a little too inclusive? In my opinion several herbs could be removed as they are in common use as culinary spices. Several other herbs (marked *) are widely and safely used, and can already be found in health food shops, pharmacies etc. Will their inclusion on Schedule 2 cause unnecessary policing problems unintended by the Bill?]