

Role-play on the passage of a mock bill

Street Performance Bill

First Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Government Bill. First Reading.
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <i>(Stands up)</i> Street Performance Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>

Second Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Second Reading. Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism.
SECRETARY FOR CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM	: <i>(Stands up)</i> President, I move the Second Reading of the Street Performance Bill. The Bill seeks to introduce a licensing regime under which street performers who have passed auditions will be issued with a licence, and to formulate a regulatory policy to ensure compliance of performances with safety and environmental standards. The establishment of a licensing regime can provide an opportunity for street performance to develop in an orderly manner, enrich the artistic and cultural life of the public, and enable both the performers and the audience to enjoy performances in a safe and comfortable environment ... <i>(Student may come up with more points of his/her own)</i> Therefore, I urge Members to support the Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i>

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: I now propose the question to you: That the aforesaid Bill be read the second time.</p> <p><i>(Second Reading debate to continue without adjournment)</i>¹</p> <p>Does any Member wish to speak?</p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 1 – Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p> <p><u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 1 – Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication Functional Constituency)</p>
HON (LegCo Member 1 – Sports, Performing Arts, Culture and Publication Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. The art of street performance is an important part of the cultural life in a city which provides an opportunity for many outstanding performers to make their debuts. The introduction of a licensing regime will not only assure the performance quality of qualified artists, but also ensure their access to suitable performance spaces. The Government's efforts to make proper arrangements for street performances will help art and culture flourish ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> Therefore, I support the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 2 – Election Committee raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 2 – Election Committee)</p>

¹ The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, after the motion for the Second Reading of a bill has been moved, the debate on the bill is adjourned, with the bill being referred to the House Committee for scrutiny.

Role	Script
HON (LegCo Member 2 – Election Committee)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Under the licensing regime, performers are required to pass an assessment prior to obtaining a licence. However, the assessment criteria inevitably involve subjective aesthetic judgment, such as a performer’s proficiency in delivering the performance and artistry and interestingness of the performance, which may arouse disputes about unfair assessment. This runs counter to the “impromptu” nature of street performance, and may even be criticized for not respecting artists ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> Therefore, I oppose the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 3 – Tourism Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 3 – Tourism Functional Constituency)</p>
HON (LegCo Member 3 – Tourism Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. Street performances embody a cultural phenomenon which is common to many international metropolises. Hong Kong is not lacking in performances that are rich in local colour. For example, Cantonese opera performances in Temple Street bring out the charm of traditional art and are appealing to tourists. In fact, places such as Taiwan and Melbourne have already introduced licensing regimes that allow street performers to showcase their talents and enable visitors to experience the local culture ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> Therefore, I support the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 4 – Wholesale and Retail Functional Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 4 – Wholesale and Retail Functional Constituency)
HON (LegCo Member 4 – Wholesale and Retail Functional Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. The living environment in Hong Kong is congested and designated performance areas are probably located near shops. When a crowd of people gather to watch a performance, they are bound to cause obstructions, disrupting the operation of nearby shops and affecting their business. With reference to the experience of the bustling districts such as Mong Kok and Causeway Bay, no matter whether a licence is issued or not, the noise generated by a street performance will cause nuisance to nearby shops. The use of oil-fired generators will also increase the risk of fire ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> Therefore, I oppose the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p> <p><i>(The student acting as LegCo Member 5 – Geographical Constituency raises his/her hand)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: <u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member 5 – Geographical Constituency)
HON (LegCo Member 5 – Geographical Constituency)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>Thank you, President. The street performance culture is closely tied to the community and serves to provide an open platform for performance. For artists, street performance is the cradle of the minority culture. For the audience, it offers greater diversity of choices that the commercial mainstream entertainment industry does not provide. In short, street performance not only reflects the diversity and inclusiveness of the community, but also provides low-cost leisure entertainment for the grassroots ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> Therefore, I support the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p>

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: Does any other Member wish to speak?</p> <p><i>(The rest of the students acting as LegCo Members may raise their hands to indicate their wish to speak. Students should wait until the President calls their names to stand up and speak)</i></p> <p>Hon _____ (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member)</p> <p><i>(One by one, the President calls upon the students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak to stand up and speak)</i></p>
HON (LegCo Member)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>(Student to express his/her views)</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <i>(All students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak have finished delivering their speeches)</i></p> <p>Does any other Member wish to speak? (If no Member indicates a wish to speak)</p> <p>If not, I now call upon the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism to reply. Then, the debate will come to a close. Secretary.</p>
SECRETARY FOR CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i></p> <p>President. I understand that Members are very concerned about the licensing criteria and the impact that street performances have on the community. However, the introduction of a licensing regime will provide a clear regulatory framework for street art performances, allowing art to integrate into people's lives. I undertake to make public the assessment procedures and licensing criteria and deploy staff to carry out inspections regularly and handle related complaints. I urge all Members to support the Bill.</p> <p><i>(Sits down)</i></p>

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: I now put the question to you: That the Street Performance Bill be read the second time.</p> <p>Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i></p> <p>Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i></p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding-right: 10px; width: 45%;"> <p>(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)</p> </div> <div style="padding-left: 10px; width: 45%;"> <p>(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)</p> </div> </div>	
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.</p>
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived.</p>
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i> Street Performance Bill. <i>(Sits down)</i></p>
	<p><i>(If the motion is negatived, no further proceedings shall be taken on the Bill)</i></p>

Consideration of bill by committee of the whole Council

Role	Script
CHAIRMAN	<p>: Council now becomes committee of the whole Council to consider the Street Performance Bill.</p> <p>I now propose the question to you: That the following clauses stand part of the Bill.</p>
CLERK	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i> Clauses 1 to 4. <i>(Sits down)</i></p>

Role	Script
CHAIRMAN	<p>: The committee will conduct a joint debate on the clauses and amendments.</p> <p><u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member) will move an amendment which seeks to amend clause 3.</p> <p><u>Hon _____</u></p>
HON (LegCo Member)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i> Chairman, I propose my amendment to clause 3 of the Bill to the effect that the validity period of a licence as originally provided in the Bill should be <u>*extended/reduced</u> to _____ months. The rationale behind my proposed amendment is that ... <i>(Student may express more views freely)</i> I hope Members will support my proposed amendment. <i>(Sits down)</i></p>
CHAIRMAN	<p>: Does any Member wish to speak?</p> <p><i>(The rest of the students acting as LegCo Members may raise their hands to indicate their wish to speak. They may speak for or against the amendment)</i></p> <p><u>Hon _____</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member)</p> <p><i>(One by one, the President calls upon the students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak to stand up and speak)</i></p>
HON (LegCo Member)	<p>: <i>(Stands up)</i> (Student to express his/her views) <i>(Sits down)</i></p>
CHAIRMAN	<p>: <i>(All students who have raised their hands to indicate their wish to speak have finished delivering their speeches)</i></p> <p>Does any Member wish to speak? (If no Member indicates a wish to speak)</p>

Role	Script
CHAIRMAN	: If not, I now call upon the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism to speak. Then, the debate will come to a close. Secretary.
SECRETARY FOR CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM	: <i>(Stands up)</i> (Student who acts as the Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism expresses his/her opinion, and responds to the views raised during the discussion of amendment to the Bill) <i>(Sits down)</i> <i>(The proceedings for dealing with clauses with no amendment are omitted)²</i>
CHAIRMAN	: <u>Hon</u> , you may move your amendment.
HON (LegCo Member)	: Chairman, I move the amendment.
CHAIRMAN	: I propose the question to you: That the amendment moved by <u>Hon</u> (Name of the student acting as LegCo Member) be passed. I now put the question to you as stated. Will those in favour please raise their hands? ³ <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i> Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>

² The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, committee of the whole Council will first vote on the clauses with no amendment standing part of the Bill.

³ To simplify the proceedings of the role-play, the passage of bills or amendments shall require a majority vote of the Members present. The voting procedure for real Council meetings is as follows:

- (a) the passage of bills or amendments introduced by the Government requires a majority vote of the Members present;
- (b) the passage of bills or amendments introduced by individual Members requires a majority vote of each of the two groups of Members present, i.e. Members returned by the Election Committee, and those returned by functional constituencies and by geographical constituencies through direct elections.

Role	Script	
	(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the amendment)	(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the amendment)
CHAIRMAN	: I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the amendment passed.	CHAIRMAN : I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the amendment negatived.
CLERK	: <i>(Stands up)</i> Clause 3 as amended. <i>(Sits down)</i>	
CHAIRMAN	: I now put the question to you: That clause 3 as amended just read out by the Clerk stands part of the Bill. Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i> Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>	CHAIRMAN : I now put the question to you: That clause 3 stands part of the Bill. Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i> Those against please raise their hands. <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>

Role	Script
(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the motion)	(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the motion)
CHAIRMAN : I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.	CHAIRMAN : I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived.

Reporting of bill from committee of the whole Council

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: All the proceedings on the Street Performance Bill have been concluded in committee of the whole Council. Council now resumes. Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism.
SECRETARY FOR CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM	: (<i>Stands up</i>) President, I now report to the Council: That the Street Performance Bill has been passed by committee of the whole Council <u>*with/without amendment (*subject to the passage of the proposed amendment)</u> . I move the motion that “This Council adopts the report”. (<i>Sits down</i>)
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I now propose the question to you: That the Secretary’s motion be passed. I now put the question to you as stated. Will those in favour please raise their hands? (<i>The Clerk counts the votes</i>) Those against please raise their hands. (<i>The Clerk counts the votes</i>)

Role	Script
<div></div>	
(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the motion)	(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the motion)
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL : I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.	PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL : I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived. <i>(If the motion is negatived, no further proceedings shall be taken on the Bill)</i>

Third Reading

Role	Script
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: Third Reading — Street Performance Bill. Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism.
SECRETARY FOR CULTURE, SPORTS AND TOURISM	: <i>(Stands up)</i> President, I move that the Street Performance Bill be read the third time and do pass. <i>(Sits down)</i> <i>(Debate to be omitted)</i> ⁴
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I now put the question to you: That the Street Performance Bill be read the third time and do pass. Will those in favour please raise their hands? <i>(The Clerk counts the votes)</i>

⁴ The proceedings have been simplified for the purposes of the role-play. For real Council meetings, Members may debate the motion for the Third Reading of a bill. Members may only make a short speech on whether the bill should be supported.

Role	Script
	Those against please raise their hands. (<i>The Clerk counts the votes</i>)
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<div> <div>(If <u>over half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)</div> <div>(If <u>half or less than half</u> of the Members present vote <u>in favour</u> of the Bill)</div> </div>	
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I think the question is agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion passed.
PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: I think the question is not agreed by a majority of the Members present. I declare the motion negatived.
CLERK TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL	: (<i>Stands up</i>) Street Performance Bill. (<i>Sits down</i>)

- End -