

12 June 2001

Hon Mrs Selina Chow Liang Shuk-ye, JP
Chairman of the House Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

Proposed Priority in the Scrutiny of Bill by Members

The Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2001, introduced into the Legislative Council on 30 May 2001, seeks to formalize the delinking of the Office of The Ombudsman from the Government and to extend the jurisdiction of The Ombudsman. Starting from April 2001, the Office of The Ombudsman has been gradually establishing its separate financial and human resource management systems. Early passage of the Bill is necessary to enable full independence of The Ombudsman from the Government, and facilitate its management of resources flexibly and efficiently, whilst keeping The Ombudsman subject to the necessary controls. We hope Members would accord priority to the scrutiny of the Bill so as to facilitate its early enactment.

I should be most grateful if you would put forward our suggestion for Members' consideration at the coming House Committee meeting.

(Andrew H Y WONG)
Director of Administration