

LC Paper No. CB(2)302/03-04 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/BC/4/02

Bills Committee on Education (Amendment) Bill 2002

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 30 October 2003 at 2:30 pm in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

Members present	: Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan (Chairman) Hon LEE Cheuk-yan Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Hon YEUNG Yiu-chung, BBS Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP Hon SZETO Wah Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Member absent	: Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, JP
Public Officers attending	 Mr M Y CHENG Deputy Secretary for Education and Manpower (3) Mr Andrew POON Principal Assistant Secretary for Education and Manpower (Quality Assurance) Mrs YU LAW Siu-man Senior Education Officer (Education Ordinance Review and Compliance)

	Mr Gilbert MO Deputy Law Draftsman (Bilingual Drafting and Administration) Department of Justice	
	Mr W L CHEUNG Senior Government Counsel Department of Justice	
Clerk in attendance	: Ms Doris CHAN Chief Assistant Secretary (2)2	
Staff in attendance	: Ms Bernice WONG Assistant Legal Adviser 1	
	Mr Stanley MA Senior Assistant Secretary (2)6	

I. Meeting with the Administration

[LC Paper No. CB(2)1723/02-03(01) circulated to members]

The Bills Committee deliberated on paragraphs 23 to 28 of the Administration's response to issues raised at the meeting on 17 and 27 March 2003 [LC Paper No. CB(2)1723/02-03(01)] (Index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).

<u>Governance structure of aided schools with an Incorporated Management</u> <u>Corporation (IMC)</u>

2. <u>Members</u> discussed the concern of School Sponsoring Bodies (SSBs) about their power to appoint the chairperson of IMC and the principal after the commencement of the Bill. <u>Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong</u> pointed out that the present drafting of the Bill would allow SSBs to specify the rules and procedures for the appointment of the chairperson in the IMC constitution. He suggested that the Bill should empower SSBs to determine the appointment of an IMC chairperson and the selection of a principal. He anticipated that SSBs would then be convinced that their power to steer IMC in pursuit of their visions and missions in education would be safeguarded in the Bill.

3. <u>The Chairman</u> shared the view of Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong. She requested the Administration to -

- (a) consider incorporating provisions in the Bill to expressly empower a SSB to determine the appointment of an IMC chairperson and the selection of a principal; and
- (b) explain why Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) schools were not compulsorily required to establish an IMC and clarify whether the policy intent was to encourage SSBs who did not wish to establish an IMC to join the DSS.

Alumni Managers

4. <u>Members</u> discussed whether a minimum age should be specified for the election and nomination of an alumni manager, particularly in primary schools where the voters and the nominees could be below the age of 18. The Administration was requested to -

- (a) consider whether minimum ages of voters and nominees should be set in the election of an alumni manager of a school; and
- (b) explain the criteria for an IMC to recognize an alumni association in case there were two or more alumni associations in a school.

Independent Managers

5. <u>The Chairman</u> expressed concern over the power of the Permanent Secretary for Education and Manpower (PSEM) under the proposed new section 40AP to grant exemption if she was satisfied that an IMC had taken "all reasonable steps" to secure compliance of the requirement for nomination of independent managers in proposed new section 40AO(2). <u>Mr CHEUNG Mankwong and Mr SZETO Wah</u> held the view that a serving independent manager should be required to vacate his office within a specified period after he had become a teacher or a parent of a current pupil of the school. <u>Members</u> requested the Administration to -

- (a) explain the meaning of "all reasonable steps" in complying with the requirements for nomination of an independent manager; and
- (b) examine whether the Bill should specify a time limit for a serving independent manager to vacate his office when he became a teacher or a parent of a current pupil of the school.

II. Any other business

Date of next meeting

6. <u>Members</u> noted that the next meeting would be held on Friday, 7 November 2003 at 10:45 am.

7. The meeting ended at 4:30 pm.

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Annex

Proceedings of the meeting of the Bills Committee on Education (Amendment) Bill 2002 on Thursday, 30 October 2003 at 2:30 pm in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building

Time marker	Speaker	Subjects	Action
			required
0000 - 0245	Chairman	Introduction.	
0246 - 3854	Chairman Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Admin Mr YEUNG Yiu-chung Mr Tommy CHEUNG Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung	Power of a SSB to appoint a chairperson, a supervisor and a principal in the governance structure of an IMC school.	
3855 - 010338	Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Admin Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman Ms Emily LAU Mr LEE Cheuk-uan	The Bill should expressly specify the power of SSB to determine the appointment/election of an IMC chairperson and the selection of a principal.	
010339 - 012152	Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Admin Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung Chairman Mr SZETO Wah	Establishment of an IMC in Direct Subsidy Scheme schools.	
012153 - 012900	Chairman Mr SZETO Wah Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Admin Ms Emily LAU	 Incorporation of provisions in the Bill to expressly empower SSBs to determine the appointment of an IMC chairperson and the selection of a principal; and whether DSS schools should be covered by the Bill. 	and (b) of the minutes
012901 - 013252	Chairman Ms Emily LAU Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Admin	Number of parent managers in an IMC school.	

013253 - 014600	Chairman Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Mr SZETO Wah Admin	 Minimum ages for voters and nominees in the election of an alumni manager; and recognition of an alumni association by IMC in case there were two or more alumni associations in an IMC school. 	and (b) of the minutes
014601 - 015745	Chairman Mr SZETO Wah Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong Admin	 Power of PSEM to exempt an IMC from any requirement of the IMC composition; and transitional period for a serving independent manager to vacate his office when he became a teacher or a parent of a current pupil of the school. 	and (b) of the minutes
015745 - 015800	Chairman	Concluding remark.	

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