

CSO/ADM CR 14/3231/97

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The Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, GBS, JP
Chairman of the House Committee
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Proposed Priority in the Scrutiny of Bills by Members

I am writing to suggest that priority be accorded by Members to the scrutiny of the Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2003, which was introduced into the Legislative Council on 12 February 2003.

Through the enactment of the Copyright (Suspension of Amendments) Ordinance 2001, certain provisions of the Copyright Ordinance on criminal liability arising from the use of infringing copies in business are suspended from operation. The suspension period will expire on 31 July 2003. The Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2003 seeks to make permanent this suspension arrangement. We propose that priority be accorded by Members to the scrutiny of the Bill, so as to facilitate its enactment before the expiry of the suspension period, and address early the potential public concerns on the matter.

I should be grateful if you would put forward the above suggestion for Members' consideration at the coming House Committee meeting on 14 February 2003.

(Andrew H Y Wong)
Director of Administration