

Urgent By Fax

Our ref: HWF CR/1/3231/98(01) Pt.10

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1 June 2004

Dr Hon LO Wing-lok, JP
Chairman
Bills Committee on
the Human Organ Transplant Bill 2001
Rooms 702-703
Tung Ming Building
40-42 Des Voeux Road
Central
(Fax 2104-7023)

Dear

Resumption of Bills Committee Meeting on the Human Organ Transplant (Amendment) Bill 2001

I am writing to express the Administration's wish to resume meetings of the Bills Committee on the Human Organ Transplant (Amendment) Bill 2001.

The Bills Committee has largely completed scrutiny of the Bill. The only outstanding issue is that of the most appropriate mechanisms for granting exemptions to individual organ products from the prohibition against commercial dealings and for hearing appeals from people/organisations aggrieved by the decisions made regarding their application for exemption. In October 2002, the Administration proposed, and the Bills Committee agreed, to put on hold the scrutiny of the above Bill, pending further research and deliberation by the Administration on the outstanding issue. We are now ready to put forward our proposals on the outstanding issue and should be grateful for your agreement to reconvene the scrutiny of the Bill as soon as

possible. We have also a couple of straightforward amendments to the Bill to propose. We are aware that current legislative session is nearing its end, but we are confident that the outstanding issues could be resolved expeditiously in time for us to resume second reading of the Bill on 7 July 2004.

By copy of this letter, I should be most grateful if Chairman of the House Committee would consider our request sympathetically so that the efforts the Bills Committee devoted to the scrutiny of the Bill would not be wasted.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs Carrie Yau)
Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

cc Hon Miriam LAU Kin-ye, House Committee Chairman
Members of the Bills Committee
Clerk to the Bills Committee