

Extract from the minutes of the House Committee meeting on 3 June 2005

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III. Business arising from previous Council meetings

(a) Legal Service Division reports on bills referred to the House Committee in accordance with Rule 54(4)

(ii) Marriage (Introduction of Civil Celebrants of Marriages and General Amendments) Bill
(LC Paper No. LS 73/04-05)

8. The Chairman said that the Bill mainly sought to provide for a statutory framework for the appointment of civil celebrants to celebrate marriages. The Administration had briefed the Panel on Security on the proposed scheme of civil celebrants on 15 April 2005. Members of the Panel supported the proposed scheme in principle but had expressed concern about the level of fee to be charged.

9. Ms Margaret NG said that a Bills Committee should be formed to study the Bill.

10. The Chairman proposed that a Bills Committee be formed. Members agreed. The following Members agreed to join: Ms Margaret NG, Ms Miriam LAU, Mr Andrew CHENG, Mr Abraham SHEK and Ms Audrey EU.

11. The Chairman said that as there was no vacant slot, the Bills Committee would be placed on the waiting list.

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