

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS76/04-05

**Paper for the House Committee Meeting
on 3 June 2005**

**Legal Service Division Report on
Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 27 May 2005**

Date of Tabling in LegCo : 1 June 2005

Amendment to be made by : 29 June 2005 (or the 1st meeting of LegCo in the next session if extended by resolution)

Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374)

***Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) (Amendment) Regulation 2005 (L.N. 83)**

The scale of fares for the hiring of taxis is specified in Schedule 5 to the Road Traffic (Public Service Vehicles) Regulations (Cap. 374 sub. leg. D). Under item 4(iv)(b) to the Schedule, the fare payable by a taxi hirer for every hiring which is for a destination across the harbour via the Eastern Harbour Crossing or the Western Harbour Crossing where the hiring does not begin from a cross-harbour taxi stand is currently fixed at \$15. This Regulation increases that fare to \$25.

2. Opportunity is also taken to remove the provisions that specify the fare for taxi hiring involving the use of vehicular ferry service between North Point and Kowloon City. That ferry service has already ceased operation.

3. Members may refer to the LegCo Brief (ETWB(T)CR 1/3/5591/71) issued by the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau on 25 May 2005 for background information.

4. According to paragraph 14 of the Brief, the recommended increase in the return toll charge for taxi passengers using Eastern Harbour Crossing and Western Harbour Crossing was proposed by some taxi trade associations and was supported unanimously by all the urban taxi trade organisations represented at the Urban Taxi Trade Conference on 21 March 2005. The Transport Advisory Committee was consulted on 19 April 2005 and did not object to this proposal.

* fare increase

5. On 22 April 2005, the Administration also consulted the LegCo Panel on Transport. The Panel was generally in support of the proposal. However, concerns had been raised over the effectiveness of the proposal to help spread out the cross-harbour taxi traffic among the three existing cross-harbour tunnels.
6. This Regulation shall come into operation on 1 October 2005.
7. No difficulties in relation to the legal and drafting aspects of the Regulation have been identified.

Prepared by

HO Ying-chu, Anita
Assistant Legal Adviser
Legislative Council Secretariat
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