

香港特別行政區政府
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



The Government of
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Administration Wing,
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office

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19 October 2012

The Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP
Chairman
House Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road,
Central
Hong Kong

Dear Chairman,

Legislative Programme 2012-13

Attached is a list of bills which the Administration intends to introduce into the Legislative Council in the current legislative session.

The Legislative Programme serves as an indication of the Administration's intention at this stage, and may be adjusted during the course of the legislative session. This notwithstanding, we hope that Members will find the Programme helpful in planning their work ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Choi'.

(Ms Kitty Choi)
Director of Administration

Encl

cc : Clerk to the House Committee

Legislative Programme 2012-13

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2012-13 legislative session. The bills to be introduced and the timing indicated below are subject to change in the light of the state of readiness of the bills and changing circumstances.

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2012-13 Legislative Session
1. Toys and Children's Product Safety (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the concentration limits of phthalates on certain types of toys and specified chattels used in association with children; and to provide for consequential and related matters and to make minor textual amendments. 	CEDB	2 nd half
2. Arbitration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement an arrangement for reciprocal enforcement of arbitral awards to be entered into between Hong Kong and Macao and introduce miscellaneous amendments to enhance the arbitration regime of Hong Kong. 	DoJ	1 st half
3. Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable a person who is not a party to a contract (i.e. a third party) to enforce a term of the contract. The Bill seeks to implement the recommendations made in the Report of Privity of 	DoJ	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2012-13 Legislative Session
	Contract published by the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong in 2005.		
4. Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide statutory effect to a set of new Air Quality Objectives, hence tightening the air quality standards against which the environmental impact of works and other processes are assessed under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap.311) and the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). 	ENB	1 st half
5. Product Eco-responsibility (Plastic Shopping Bags) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the second phase of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags by extending its coverage to all retailers. 	ENB	2 nd half
6. Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance control on the depositing of construction waste on private land. 	ENB	2 nd half
7. Pesticides (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Pesticides Ordinance (Cap. 133) in order to meet the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous 	FHB	1 st half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2012-13 Legislative Session
8. Inland Revenue and Stamp Duty Legislation (Alternative Bond Schemes) (Amendment) Bill	<p>Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and to improve certain outdated regulatory practices under the Ordinance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote Hong Kong as an asset management centre by providing for a comparable taxation regime for common types of Islamic bonds (sukuk) vis-à-vis conventional bonds in terms of their profits tax, property tax and stamp duty liabilities. 	FSTB	1 st half
9. Trust Law (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To better cater for the needs of modern-day trusts, to enhance the interests of parties to a trust, and to strengthen the competitiveness and attractiveness of Hong Kong's trust services industry. 	FSTB	1 st half
10. Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the exchange of tax information arrangements such that Hong Kong is in a position to keep up with its commitment to expand the network of comprehensive avoidance of double taxation agreements with its trading and investment partners, whilst enabling Hong Kong 	FSTB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2012-13 Legislative Session
11. Child Abduction and Custody (Amendment) Bill	to put into place a legal framework for entering into tax information exchange agreements with other jurisdictions where necessary.	LWB	2 nd half
12. Employment (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To remove the requirement for an employer's agreement to the making of an order for reinstatement or re-engagement of an employee who has been dismissed unreasonably and unlawfully, and to require the employer to pay a further sum to the employee for failing to comply with such an order. 	LWB	2 nd half
13. Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement requirements of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC, 2006) and to remove 	THB	1 st half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2012-13 Legislative Session
14. Pilotage (Amendment) Bill	<p>inconsistencies between the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Ordinance (Cap. 478) and the latest standards enshrined in MLC, 2006. MLC, 2006 stipulates the requirements for protection of the working conditions and welfare of seafarers covering health, safety, recruitment, hours of work, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make a number of miscellaneous amendments to the Pilotage Ordinance (Cap. 84) to improve its operation in the light of past experience and to give statutory backing to certain existing practices. 	THB	2 nd half

Administration Wing
 Chief Secretary for Administration's Office
 October 2012