

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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28 February 2013

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

Dear Chairman,

Updated 2012-13 Legislative Programme

In line with established practice, I attach at **Annex** the updated 2012-13 Legislative Programme for Members' reference.

The updated programme serves as an indication of the Administration's latest legislative proposals, and is subject to change in the light of development in the remaining months of the legislative session.

Yours sincerely,

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

(Ms Kitty Choi)
Director of Administration

Encl.

c.c. Clerk to the House Committee

**Updated Legislative Programme 2012-13
(March to July 2013)**

This updated programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce in the remainder of the 2012-13 legislative session. The bills to be introduced are subject to change in the light of the state of readiness of the bills and changing circumstances.

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau
1. Toys and Children's Product Safety (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To expand the scope of application of the Toys and Children's Product Safety Ordinance (Cap. 424) to certain children's products; to enable that regulations may be made to provide for additional safety standards or requirements for the expanded scope, with the aim to provide for the concentration limits of phthalates on certain types of toys and specified chattels used in association with children.	CEDB
2. Arbitration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To implement the Arrangement Concerning Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement of Arbitral Awards between Hong Kong and Macao dated 7 January 2013 and to introduce miscellaneous amendments to the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap. 609) to enhance the arbitration regime of Hong Kong.	DoJ
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 Contract published by the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong in 2005.	DoJ

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau
4. Education (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279) and its subsidiary legislation (i.e. the Grant Schools Provident Fund (GSPF) Rules (Cap. 279 sub. leg. C) and Subsidized Schools Provident Fund (SSPF) Rules (Cap. 279 sub. leg. D)) to provide protection to GSPF and SSPF contributors of their benefits in the GSPF and SSPF in case of bankruptcy. 	EDB
5. 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
6. 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
7. Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance control on the depositing of construction waste on private land. 	ENB
8. Securities and Futures (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the regulation of over-the-counter derivative market and other technical improvements to the regulatory regime for the financial market. 	FSTB
9. 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 	FSTB

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau
10. Betting Duty (Amendment) Bill	<p>comprehensive avoidance of double taxation agreements with its trading and investment partners, whilst enabling Hong Kong to put into place a legal framework for entering into tax information exchange agreements with other jurisdictions where necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To revise the betting duty structure so that (a) the current betting duty structure will cease to be applicable to non-local bets placed on horse races held in Hong Kong; and (b) there will be another betting duty structure applicable to authorized betting on horse races held outside Hong Kong. 	HAB
11. Hong Kong Arts Development Council (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) Ordinance (Cap. 472) to enable the current arrangements of individuals' participation and "cross art-interest" nomination of persons for consideration by the Chief Executive for appointment as members of the HKADC. 	HAB
12. Child Abduction and Custody (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the recommendations of the Report on International Parental Child Abduction published by the Law Reform Commission which aim at tackling more effectively the problem of international parental child abduction mainly by strengthening the power of the court and the law enforcement agencies. 	LWB
13. 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 	LWB

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau
14. Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) (Amendment) Bill	<p>to pay a further sum to the employee for failing to comply with such an order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement requirements of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC, 2006) and to remove 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. 	THB
15. Pilotage (Amendment) Bill	<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

Administration Wing
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office
February 2013