

By fax (2840 0569)

CB(3)/B/FST/1 (13-14)
3919 3300
2810 1691

29 April 2014

The Hon John TSANG, GBM, JP
The Financial Secretary
25/F, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue
Tamar
Hong Kong

Dear Financial Secretary,

Appropriation Bill 2014

Thank you for your letter of 17 April 2014 to the President, who has directed me to reply on his behalf.

The President has ruled admissible 1 192 Committee stage amendments (“CSAs”) proposed by 14 Members to the Appropriation Bill 2014. In reaching his decisions on the admissibility of those CSAs, the President has stressed that he has struck a proper balance between respecting the right of individual Members to propose amendments and ensuring the efficient conduct of the Council as a law-making institution.

The Council will start considering the CSAs at the meeting of 30 April 2014. The President is fully aware of the Administrator’s concerns about the serious consequences of delay in the passage of the Bill. As he has stated in his ruling, in the exercise and discharge of his constitutional powers and functions as President, he will ensure that the legislative process of the Bill would not be prolonged to the extent of preventing the Legislative Council from properly exercising and discharging its powers and functions under the Basic Law.

Yours sincerely

(Odella LEUNG)
for Clerk to the Legislative Council

