

**Bills Committee on Rural Representative Election  
Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013**

**Committee Stage Amendments**

**Introduction**

This paper sets out the proposed Committee Stage Amendments (CSAs) (see **Annex**) to the Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013 (the Bill) that the Government intends to move in the light of the discussions at the meetings of the Bills Committee on Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013 (the Committee) on 13 January and 7 February 2014. The CSAs are technical amendments to enhance the consistency in wording or clarity in presentation of the relevant provisions without affecting the substance of the provisions.

**Details of the Proposed CSAs**

2. The Government will move the following CSAs as stated in its response to the follow-up actions arising from the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 13 January 2014 ( LC Paper No. CB(2)811/13-14(02)) :

- (a) amend **the Chinese text of clause 22 of the Bill** to revise the Chinese equivalent of “must” in the existing section 11(1)(a) and (b) of the Electoral Affairs Commission (Registration of Electors) (Village Representation Election) Regulation (Cap. 541 K) from “必須” to “須” to standardise the equivalent of “must” in the Chinese text of various paragraphs of section 11(1).
- (b) amend **the Chinese text of clause 27 of the Bill** to revise the Chinese equivalent of “despite” in the existing section 18(4)(a)(ii) of Cap. 541K from “縱使” to “即使” to standardise the equivalent of “despite” in the Chinese text of section 18(4) and (4A).
- (c) amend **clause 47 of the Bill** to revise “he” (“他”) in the existing section 45(4)(a) to (c) of the Electoral Procedure (Village Representative Election) Regulation (Cap. 541L) to “the person”

(“該人”) to standardise the wording of various paragraphs of section 45(4).

- (d) amend **the English text of clauses 52 and 55 of the Bill** to revise the English equivalent of “須” in the existing sections 61(1) and 67(3)(a) to (c) of Cap. 541L from “shall be” to “is to be” or “are to be” to achieve consistency in wording of sections 61(1) and 67(3).

3. In addition, in the light of the suggestion made at the meeting of the Committee on 7 February 2014, the Government will further amend clause 62 of the Bill to enhance the clarity in presentation of the amended section 2 of the Maximum Amount of Election Expenses (Village Representative Election) Regulation (Cap. 554B). Specifically, the Government will amend section 2(b) to precisely specify that the \$28,000 limit applies only where there are more than 1 000 electors but not more than 5 000 electors for the Rural Area.

### **Resumption of the Second Reading**

4. As indicated at the meeting of the Committee on 7 February 2014, the Government proposes to resume the Second Reading of the Bill on 26 March 2014.

**Home Affairs Department**  
**February 2014**

Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013

**Committee Stage**

Amendments to be moved by the Secretary for Home Affairs

<u>Clause</u>	<u>Amendment Proposed</u>
22	By adding before subclause (1)— “(1A) Section 11(1)(a), Chinese text— <b>Repeal</b> “必須” <b>Substitute</b> “須”.”.
22	By adding after subclause (1)— “(1AA) Section 11(1)(b), Chinese text— <b>Repeal</b> “必須” <b>Substitute</b> “須”.”.
27	By adding before subclause (1)— “(1A) Section 18(4)(a)(ii), Chinese text— <b>Repeal</b> “縱使” <b>Substitute</b> “即使”.”.
47	By adding before subclause (1)— “(1A) Section 45(4)(a)— <b>Repeal</b> “he” <b>Substitute</b> “the person”. (1B) Section 45(4)(b)—

**Repeal**

“he”

**Substitute**

“the person”.”.

- 47 By adding after subclause (1)—  
“(1AA) Section 45(4)(c)—  
**Repeal**  
“he”  
**Substitute**  
“the person”.”.
- 52 By adding before subclause (1)—  
“(1A) Section 61(1), English text—  
**Repeal**  
“shall then, in the counting zone, be”  
**Substitute**  
“are then, in the counting zone, to be”.”.
- 52 By adding after subclause (1)—  
“(1AA) Section 61(1)(a), English text—  
**Repeal**  
“shall be” (wherever appearing)  
**Substitute**  
“are to be”.”.
- 52 By adding after subclause (2)—  
“(2A) Section 61(1)(b), English text—  
**Repeal**  
“shall be” (wherever appearing)  
**Substitute**  
“are to be”.”.
- 55 By adding before subclause (1)—  
“(1A) Section 67(3)(a), English text—  
**Repeal**

“shall be”

**Substitute**

“is to be”.

(1B) Section 67(3)(b), English text—

**Repeal**

“shall be”

**Substitute**

“is to be”.”.

55

By adding after subclause (1)—

“(1AA) Section 67(3)(c), English text—

**Repeal**

“shall be”

**Substitute**

“is to be”.”.

62

By deleting subclause (3) and substituting—

“(3) Section 2(b)—

**Repeal**

“over 1,000 electors for the Village, \$28,000.”

**Substitute**

“more than 1,000 electors but not more than 5,000 electors for the Rural Area, \$28,000; or”.”.