

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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3 March 2014

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

Dear Chairman,

Updated 2013-14 Legislative Programme

In line with established practice, I attach at **Annex** the updated 2013-14 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 black ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Choi', written in a cursive style.

(Ms Kitty Choi)
Director of Administration

Encl.

c.c. Clerk to the House Committee

**Updated Legislative Programme 2013-14
(March to July 2014)**

This updated Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the remainder of the 2013-14 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 2013-14 legislative session
1. Competition (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To amend the Competition Ordinance (Cap. 619) to provide the powers necessary for the functioning of the Competition Tribunal which has the primary jurisdiction to hear and adjudicate on competition related case.	CEDB	2 nd half
2. Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To extend the protection of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480) to sexual harassment by customers against service providers.	CMAB	2 nd half
3. Electoral Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To amend the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance (Cap.541), the Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542), the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547), the Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Conduct) Ordinance (Cap. 554), the Chief Executive Election Ordinance (Cap. 569), the Village Representative Election Ordinance (Cap. 576) and the subsidiary legislation made under Cap. 541, Cap. 542, Cap. 569 and Cap. 576 to improve voter registration and electoral procedures.	CMAB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
4. Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To take forward various miscellaneous amendments relating to the court operation of the Judiciary. 	CSO/JA	2 nd half
5. Construction Workers Registration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 583) to facilitate implementation of the remaining phase of Prohibition (not yet implemented), that is, forbidding people from undertaking construction works of designated trades unless they are relevant trade-registered workers or under instruction and supervision of the relevant trade-registered workers. 	DEVB	2 nd half
6. Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase the deterrent effects against offences relating to unlawful occupation of unleased land through increasing the relevant existing penalties and introducing a system of daily fine. 	DEVB	2 nd half
7. 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 on Privity of Contract published by the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong in 2005. 	DoJ	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
8. Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To introduce miscellaneous amendments which are minor, technical and largely non-controversial to various Ordinances and subsidiary legislation and, in particular – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to amend and repeal certain provisions of the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200) that were ruled unconstitutional by the Court in the cases of <i>Leung TC William Roy v S for J</i> (CACV 317/2005) and <i>S for J v Yau Yuk Lung Zigo & Anor</i> (FACC 12/2006); and (b) to introduce legislative amendments proposed by the Equal Opportunities Commission in relation to the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480), the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487), the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 527) and the Race Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 602). 	DoJ	2 nd half
9. Product Eco-responsibility (Electrical and Electronic Equipment) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To implement the new producer responsibility scheme for the proper management of locally generated waste electrical and electronic equipment. 	ENB	2 nd half
10. Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give effect to the proposal announced in the 2014-15 Budget to increase the rates of duty on various types of tobacco. 	FHB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
11. Electronic Health Record Sharing System Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the establishment of the Electronic Health Record Sharing System (the System), the sharing and using of data and information contained in the System, the protection of the System, data and information, and to provide for incidental and related matters. 	FHB	2 nd half
12. Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance the existing drug regulatory regime in Hong Kong as recommended by the Review Committee on the Regulation of Pharmaceutical Products in early 2010 in response to a series of drug incidents in 2009. 	FHB	2 nd half
13. Private Columbaria Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To formulate a new Ordinance to regulate the operation of private columbaria in the territory through a statutory licensing scheme, with a view to ensuring that the licensed operations meet the statutory and Government requirements and better protect consumer interest. 	FHB	2 nd half
14. Veterinary Surgeons Registration (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To amend the Veterinary Surgeons Registration Ordinance (Cap. 529) to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) increase the number of members, and revise the composition of the membership, of the Veterinary Surgeons Board of Hong Kong (“VSB”); (b) create a panel of assessors to assist VSB to handle complaints; (c) revise the composition of the complaint-handling committees 	FHB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
	<p>of VSB; and (d) streamline the complaint-handling procedures of VSB.</p>		
<p>15. Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To implement the concessionary revenue measures as announced in the 2014-15 Budget which include the proposed increase in the allowance for maintaining a dependent parent or grandparent and the deduction ceiling for elderly residential care expenses, as well as the proposed one-off reduction for the salaries tax, tax under personal assessment and profits tax for 2013-14 by 75%, subject to a ceiling of \$10,000. 	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>16. Inland Revenue (Amendment) (No.2) Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) allow taxpayers and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue to lodge direct appeals to the court against the decisions of the Board of Review (Inland Revenue Ordinance) (“the Board”) on questions of law without the need to have the Board to agree to state a case for the court’s consideration; (b) empower the Board to give directions on the practice and procedure of the appeal and to sanction non-compliance; and (c) provide appropriate privileges and immunities to the Chairman, deputy chairmen and members of the Board as well as to witness, party to any proceedings and 	FSTB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
	representative or other person appearing before the Board.		
17. Insurance Companies (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the establishment of an independent Insurance Authority and a legislative framework for the regulation of insurance intermediaries; and to strengthen the regulation of insurers. 	FSTB	2 nd half
18. Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To allow Mandatory Provident Fund (“MPF”) scheme members to withdraw MPF benefits on the ground of terminal illness before retirement and to withdraw the benefits by instalments; and simplify certain regulatory procedures and requirements applicable to trustees to provide greater scope for MPF fee reduction by trustees. 	FSTB	2 nd half
19. Securities and Futures and Companies Legislation (Uncertificated Securities Market Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To upgrade the infrastructure and quality of the securities market in Hong Kong for better investor protection by enabling the introduction of an uncertificated securities regime. 	FSTB	2 nd half
20. Property Management Services Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for a statutory licensing regime for the regulation of the property management industry, and to provide the legal basis for the establishment of the Property Management Services Authority as the regulatory body. 	HAB	2 nd half

Title	Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2013-14 legislative session
21. Employment (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide in the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) that eligible working fathers will be entitled to three days of paid paternity leave at a rate of four-fifths of their average daily wages. 	LWB	2 nd half
22. Marriage (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the Court of Final Appeal order in the relevant Judicial Review case (<i>W v Registrar of Marriages</i> (FACV 4/2012)). 	SB	2 nd half
23. Shipping Legislation (Control of Smoke Emission) (Amendment) Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To implement the recommendation of the Audit Report No. 59 “Implementation of air-quality improvement measures” published in October 2012 by adopting the Ringelmann Chart as a reference to measure dark smoke emissions from vessels, and defining the quantity and duration of dark smoke emission of vessels which will constitute an offence. 	THB	2 nd half

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March 2014