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中華人民共和國香港特別行政區 Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China



立法會秘書處法律事務部 LEGAL SERVICE DIVISION LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

來函檔號 YOUR REF : THB(T) CR19/3231/00
本函檔號 OUR REF : LS/B/20/17-18
電 話 TELEPHCNE : 3919 3505

傳真 FACSIALE: 2877 5029 電郵 E-MAL : jyschan@legco.gov.hk

> <u>URGENT</u> By Fax (2824 0433)

> > 26 June 2018

Ms Stella LEE Asst Comr/Mgt & Paratransit Transport Department Headquarters Office of the Commissioners 41/F, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Dear Ms LEE,

Ferry Services (Amendment) Bill 2018

We are scrutinizing the legal and drafting aspects of the captioned Bill and shall be grateful if you could clarify the following matters.

The Bill seeks to amend the Ferry Services Ordinance (Cap. 104) to lengthen the period for which a licence to operate a ferry service may be granted, and the period for which such a licence may be extended, from three years to five years. Please clarify whether the enacted Ordinance would only apply to licence applications received after the commencement of the Ordinance or it would equally apply to licence applications submitted prior to the commencement of the Ordinance but not yet granted as of its commencement date.

Please also consider whether transitional provisions should be provided for under the Bill to clearly reflect the policy intent in relation to applications submitted by ferry operators prior to the commencement date of the enacted Ordinance.

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Since the Bill would be considered by the House Committee at its meeting on 29 June 2018, it is appreciated that your reply in both English and Chinese could reach us before noon on 27 June 2018.

Yours sincerely,

(Joyce CHAN) Assistant Legal Adviser

c.c. DoJ (Attn: Mr Gary LI, Govt Counsel (By Fax: 3918 4613)) Legal Adviser Senior Assistant Legal Adviser 1