

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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24 October 2019

The Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP  
Chairman  
House Committee  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

*Dear Starry,*

### **2019-2020 Legislative Programme**

Attached is a list of bills which the Government intends to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2019-2020 legislative session.

The Legislative Programme serves as an indication of the Government's intention at this stage, and may be adjusted during the course of the legislative session. This notwithstanding, we hope that Members will find the Programme helpful in planning their work ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Esther Leung'.

( Ms Esther Leung )  
Director of Administration

Encl.

cc Clerk to the House Committee

## Legislative Programme 2019-2020

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2019-2020 legislative session. The bills and the indicative timing of introduction are subject to revisions in light of the readiness of the bills and changing circumstances.

	<b>Title and Purpose of the Bill</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session</b>
1.	<b>Copyright (Amendment) Bill</b>  To amend the Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528) to enhance the copyright exceptions for persons with a print disability, in order to bring them into line with the standards under the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.	CEDB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
2.	<b>Trade Descriptions (Amendment) Bill</b>  To amend the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362) to provide a legal framework for the implementation of a cooling-off period in consumer contracts involving beauty and fitness services and to provide for certain enforcement-related matters.	CEDB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
3.	<b>Electoral Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill</b>  To amend various pieces of electoral legislation to revise the requirement on disclosing the principal residential address of candidates in the gazette notices published by the returning officer, nomination forms or the ballot papers in Rural Representative elections and Election Committee Subsector elections, and lift the requirement to withhold financial assistance payable until disposal of relevant election petitions arising from LegCo and District Council elections.	CMAB	1 <sup>st</sup> half

	<b>Title and Purpose of the Bill</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session</b>
4.	<b>Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill</b>	CMAB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480) to render it unlawful for a person to harass a breastfeeding woman; and to make related amendments.		
5.	<b>Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill</b>	DoJ	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	The Bill is an omnibus Bill proposing miscellaneous amendments which are minor, technical and non-controversial, to various Ordinances and subsidiary legislation.		
6.	<b>Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Bill</b>	FHB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To provide for the discretion power under the Fisheries Protection Ordinance (Cap. 171) for registering fishing vessels that fail to meet the statutory requirement due to justifiable reason(s).		
7.	<b>Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill</b>	FHB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap. 138) to enable the regulation of Advanced Therapy Products to safeguard public health.		

	Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session
8.	<b>Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Profits Tax Concessions for Insurance-Related Business) Bill</b>	FSTB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to provide tax reliefs to promote the development of the insurance sector, including marine insurance and the underwriting of specialty risks in Hong Kong.		
9.	<b>Insurance (Amendment) Bill</b>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
	To amend the Insurance Ordinance (Cap. 41) to improve the regulatory framework for the supervision of insurance groups where the holding company of an insurance group is incorporated in Hong Kong.		
10.	<b>Insurance (Amendment) Bill</b>	FSTB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
	To amend the Insurance Ordinance (Cap. 41) to — (a) empower the Insurance Authority to authorise special purpose vehicles to be set up specifically for issuing insurance-linked securities and specify the related regulatory requirements; and (b) facilitate the development of captive insurers in Hong Kong by expanding the scope of insurable risks.		

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session
11. <b>Limited Partnership Fund Bill</b>	FSTB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
To introduce a limited partnership regime which can cater for the operational needs of private equity funds in terms of legal structure, disclosure requirements, etc., so as to attract private equity funds to set up and operate in Hong Kong.		
12. <b>Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Bill</b>	JUD/ CSO	1 <sup>st</sup> half
To introduce a new Bill to enable the full implementation of the first stage of the Information Technology Strategy Plan in the Judiciary.		
13. <b>Employment (Amendment) Bill</b>	LWB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
To amend the Employment Ordinance (Cap. 57) to extend the current 10 weeks' statutory maternity leave to 14 weeks, and to make two technical amendments to — (a) update the definition of “miscarriage” and (b) entitle an employee who has attended medical examination in relation to her pregnancy to sickness allowance by her producing, other than a medical certificate, the relevant certificate of attendance.		
14. <b>Immigration (Amendment) Bill</b>	SB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
To amend Immigration Ordinance (Cap. 115) to improve the screening procedures for non-refoulement claims and provide for related matters.		

	<b>Title and Purpose of the Bill</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session</b>
15.	<b>Freight Containers (Safety) (Amendment) Bill</b>	THB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Freight Containers (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 506) and its two Schedules to implement the latest requirements of the International Convention for Safe Containers, as promulgated by the International Maritime Organization, governing the safety of handling, stacking and transporting of freight containers.		
16.	<b>Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Ship Leasing Tax Concessions) Bill</b>	THB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance to give profits tax concessions to qualifying ship lessors and qualifying ship leasing managers.		
17.	<b>Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Shipowners Liability) (Amendment) Bill</b>	THB	2 <sup>nd</sup> half
	To implement the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 2002 of the International Maritime Organization to provide for increased liability limits on passenger carriers, requirements on compulsory insurance and provision of an enhanced compensation regime for the benefit of passengers of vessels engaged in international and regional voyages.		

	<b>Title and Purpose of the Bill</b>	<b>Bureau</b>	<b>Indicative timing within 2019-2020 legislative session</b>
18.	<b>Rating (Amendment) Bill</b>	THB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To amend the Rating Ordinance (Cap. 116) to give effect to the proposal of introducing a new “Special Rates” on vacant first-hand private residential units at two times (i.e. 200%) of the rateable value of the units concerned.		
19.	<b>Road Traffic Legislation (Parking Spaces) (Amendment) Bill</b>	THB	1 <sup>st</sup> half
	To provide a legal basis for the new features and functions of a new generation of parking meters to be installed progressively from the first half of 2020 onwards. In addition, the legislative amendments seek to amend the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) to the effect that the prescription and alterations of the Road Users’ Code are no longer deemed to be subsidiary legislation.		

Administration Wing  
Chief Secretary for Administration’s Office  
October 2019