

LC Paper No. LS69/20-21

Paper for the House Committee Meeting on 7 May 2021

Legal Service Division Report on Subsidiary Legislation Gazetted on 30 April 2021

Tabling in LegCo	:	Council meeting of 5 May 2021
Amendment to be made by	:	Council meeting of 2 June 2021 (or that of 23 June 2021 if extended by resolution)

TaxReserveCertificates(RateofInterest)(L.N. 54)(Consolidation) (Amendment) (No. 2) Notice 2021

L.N. 54 is made by the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury ("SFST")¹ under rule 7(2)(h) of the Tax Reserve Certificates (Fourth Series) Rules (Cap. 289A). It amends the Schedule to the Tax Reserve Certificates (Rate of Interest) (Consolidation) Notice (Cap. 289B) to specify that the rate of interest payable on tax reserve certificates issued on or after 3 May 2021 shall be 0.0833% per annum. The rate of interest was last fixed at 0.1167% per annum and took effect on 1 April 2021 (L.N. 49 of 2021).

2. No Legislative Council ("LegCo") Brief has been issued for L.N. 54. Upon enquiry by the Legal Service Division, the Administration has advised that the adjustment is a routine exercise to update the interest rate payable on tax reserve certificates, and the Administration considers it unnecessary to issue a LegCo Brief or consult the public.

3. As advised by the Clerk to the Panel on Financial Affairs, the Panel has not been consulted on L.N. 54.

¹ Under rule 7(2)(h) of Cap. 289A, the Financial Secretary may fix the rate of interest in relation to tax reserve certificates issued by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue on or after 11 April 1980. Under section 3 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1), "Financial Secretary" means the Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and SFST.

4. L.N. 54 came into operation on the date of its publication in the Gazette (i.e. 30 April 2021).

5. No difficulties have been identified in relation to the legal and drafting aspects of L.N. 54.

Prepared by

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