

香港特別行政區政府
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



LC Paper No. CB(2)21/20-21(01)

The Government of
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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15 October 2020

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

Dear Starry,

2020-2021 Legislative Programme

Attached is a list of bills which the Government intends to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2020-2021 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 blue ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Cheng'.

(Daniel Cheng)

Director of Administration

Encl.

cc Clerk to the House Committee

Legislative Programme 2020-2021

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2020-2021 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 and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
1. Telecommunications (Amendment) Bill	CEDB	2 nd half
To streamline regulatory/licensing process under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) to facilitate developments of 5G and Internet of Things technologies and enhance protection of underground telecommunications facilities.		
2. Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill 2020¹	CMAB	1 st half
To amend the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 480) to render it unlawful to harass a breastfeeding woman, and to make related amendments.		
3. Mainland Judgments in Matrimonial and Family Cases (Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement) Bill	DoJ	1 st half
To implement in Hong Kong the arrangement titled “《關於內地與香港特別行政區法院相互認可和執行婚姻家庭民事案件判決的安排》” signed between the HKSAR Government and the Supreme People’s Court on 20 June 2017 and mainly provide for Mainland civil judgments in matrimonial and family matters to be recognised and enforced in Hong Kong.		

¹ The Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Bill 2020 was gazetted on 31 January 2020.

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
4. Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill	ENB	2 nd half
<p>To update Air Quality Objectives (“AQOs”) prescribed in Schedule 5 of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311), and introduce a 36-month transitional provision for Designated Projects, with Environmental Permits issued prior to the commencement of the new AQOs, to use the prevailing AQOs for applications for variations of Environmental Permits under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499).</p>		
5. Mercury Control Bill	ENB	2 nd half
<p>To implement the Minamata Convention on Mercury, which protects human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds.</p>		
6. Companies (Corporate Rescue) Bill	FSTB	1 st half
<p>To introduce a statutory corporate rescue procedure and insolvent trading provisions in Hong Kong.</p>		
7. Inland Revenue (Carried Interest Tax Concessions) (Amendment) Bill	FSTB	1 st half
<p>To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to provide tax concession for carried interest issued by private equity funds operating in Hong Kong.</p>		

	Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
8.	Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Qualifying Amalgamations, Specified Assets and Electronic Returns) Bill	FSTB	2 nd half
	To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to address tax issues relating to court-free amalgamation of companies and transfer or succession of specified assets; and to enable a new mechanism for the electronic filing of tax returns.		
9.	Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes (Amendment) Bill	FSTB	2 nd half
	To amend the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance (Cap. 485) to reflect the changes in the Mandatory Provident Fund scheme administration work flow and enable the implementation and operation of the new eMPF Platform.		
10.	Securities and Futures and Companies Legislation (Amendment) Bill	FSTB	2 nd half
	To provide legal backing for implementing a scripless regime of listed securities under a revised operational model with a view to modernising the securities market infrastructure in Hong Kong and providing better investor protection and choice; and clarify the scope of regulated activities for the new over-the-counter derivatives licensing regime.		

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
<p>11. Courts (Remote Hearing) Bill</p> <p>To provide an option for the Court to use remote hearing at times when it is undesirable, if not impossible, to conduct physical hearing, either because of the peculiar features of a case or because of special circumstances like public health condition, or other emergency situations which render it either undesirable or impossible for court users to physically attend the hearing.</p>	<p>JUD/ CSO</p>	<p>2nd half</p>
<p>12. Occupational Safety and Health Council (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Occupational Safety and Health Council Ordinance (Cap. 398) to empower the Occupational Safety and Health Council to undertake new functions relating to the rehabilitation of employees injured at work.</p>	<p>LWB</p>	<p>1st half</p>
<p>13. Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) (Amendment) Bill and Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459), the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613) and the relevant subsidiary legislation with a view to implementing the improvement measures as recommended by the Working Group on the Review of Ordinances and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes established by the Social Welfare Department, thereby enhancing quality of care services provided by residential care homes.</p>	<p>LWB</p>	<p>2nd half</p>

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
<p>14. Occupational Safety and Health Legislation (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (Cap. 59), the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509), and their subsidiary legislation to raise the maximum penalty levels so as to enhance their deterrent effect.</p>	LWB	2 nd half
<p>15. Immigration (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To improve the screening procedures for non-refoulement claims and provide for related matters.</p>	SB	1 st half
<p>16. Crimes (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To introduce new criminal offences of voyeurism, intimate prying, non-consensual photography of intimate parts, and the distribution of related images.</p>	SB	2 nd half
<p>17. Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To increase the penalties for illegal carriage of passengers by motor vehicles for hire or reward in order to enhance the deterrent effect.</p>	THB	1 st half
<p>18. Taxi-driver-offence Points and Taxi Penalty Bill</p> <p>To introduce a Taxi-driver-offence Points system and a two-tier penalty system for certain taxi-driver-related offences with a view to strengthening the overall deterrent effect and enhancing taxi service quality.</p>	THB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2020-2021 legislative session
19. Free-Flow Tolling System Bill	THB	2 nd half
<p>To amend the Road Tunnels (Government) Ordinance (Cap. 368), the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) and the Tsing Sha Control Area Ordinance (Cap. 594) to provide the requisite legal backing for implementing Free-Flow Tolling System at government tolled tunnels and Tsing Sha Control Area.</p>		
20. Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Liability for Carriage of Passengers and Luggage by Sea) Bill	THB	2 nd half
<p>To implement through local legislation the latest requirements of the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974 as amended by the Protocol of 2002, adopted by the International Maritime Organization, to impose an enhanced regime of liability on passenger carriers and to require compulsory insurance to enhance protection against damages or loss suffered by passengers travelling by sea.</p>		

Administration Wing
 Chief Secretary for Administration's Office
 October 2020