

香港特別行政區政府
政務司司長辦公室轄下行政署



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The Government of
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
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20 January 2022

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

2022 Legislative Programme

Attached is a list of bills which the Government intends to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2022 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 that reads 'Daniel'.

(Daniel Cheng)
Director of Administration

Encl.

cc Clerk to the House Committee

2022 Legislative Programme

This Programme sets out the main pieces of legislation which the Government plans to introduce into the Legislative Council in the 2022 legislative session. The Bills to be introduced and the timing indicated below are subject to change in light of the state of readiness of the bills and changing circumstances.

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>1. Copyright (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To modernise Hong Kong’s copyright regime and strengthen copyright protection in the digital environment.</p>	CEDB	1 st half
<p>2. Regional Flag and Regional Emblem (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To better align the Regional Flag and Regional Emblem Ordinance (117 of 1997) with the amended National Flag and National Emblem Ordinance (116 of 1997) as recommended by the Bills Committee for the National Flag and National Emblem (Amendment) Bill 2021.</p>	CMAB	2 nd half
<p>3. Town Planning (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To streamline certain statutory procedures relating to land development with a view to expediting land and housing supply. Along the same direction, Government is exploring amendments to provisions concerning development-related approvals in other Ordinances, such as the Lands Resumption Ordinance (Cap. 124), the Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance (Cap. 127), and the Roads (Works, Use and</p>	DEVB	2 nd half

Title and Purpose of the Bill

Bureau

**Indicative
timing within
2022 legislative
session**

Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370), etc. The Government will examine whether to carry the proposed legislative amendments in a single consolidated bill or separate bills. As such, the title and coverage of the Bill are to be finalised as appropriate.

In addition, amendments to the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) may include enforcement-related provisions, with a view to enabling the Planning Authority to protect more effectively certain rural areas with high ecological value but subject to development pressure.

4. **Arbitration and Legal Practitioners Legislation (Outcome Related Fee Structures for Arbitration) (Amendment) Bill**

DoJ

1st half

To amend the Arbitration Ordinance (Cap. 609) and the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Cap. 159) to ensure that certain agreements using outcome related fee structures for arbitration are not prohibited by the common law doctrines of maintenance and champerty, to provide for the validity and enforceability of such agreements, to provide for measures and safeguards in relation to such agreements, and to provide for related matters.

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>5. Mainland Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters (Reciprocal Enforcement) Bill</p> <p>To make provisions for the enforcement in Hong Kong of judgments in civil or commercial matters given in the Mainland, and for facilitating the recognition and enforcement in the Mainland of such judgments given in Hong Kong, so as to give effect to the Arrangement on Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters by the Courts of the Mainland and of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region made between the Supreme People’s Court of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in Jan 2019; and to provide for related matters.</p>	DoJ	1 st half
<p>6. Evidence (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To reform the common law rule against hearsay evidence in criminal proceedings, which was recommended by the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong via its report on “Hearsay in Criminal Proceedings” published in Nov 2009.</p>	DoJ	2 nd half
<p>7. Education (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279) to extend the retirement age of the newly employed teaching staff in aided schools from 60 to 65, and to amend the Grant Schools Provident Fund Rules (Cap. 279 sub. leg. C) and the Subsidized</p>	EDB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
Schools Provident Fund Rules (Cap. 279 sub. leg. D) to correspondingly adjust the provident fund arrangements for the newly employed teaching staff in aided schools.		
8. Post Secondary Colleges (Amendment) Bill	EDB	2 nd half
To enhance the regulatory framework and improve governance of self-financing post-secondary education institutions.		
9. Promotion of Eco-responsibility (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill	ENB	1 st half
To amend the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap. 603) and the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) to promote plastic waste reduction by regulating disposable plastic tableware and introducing a producer responsibility scheme (“PRS”) on plastic beverage containers; to refine existing PRSs; and to implement the latest requirements of the Basel Convention in Hong Kong.		
10. Advance Medical Directive and DNACPR Directive Bill	FHB	2 nd half
To make provision for the making of advance medical directive as regards life-sustaining treatments and DNACPR directive; for operation of instructions in advance medical directives; for operation of DNACPR directives; and for related matters.		

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>11. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To enhance animal welfare by introducing a positive duty of care to animals, enhance offences against cruelty and strengthen enforcement powers.</p>	FHB	2 nd half
<p>12. Supplementary Medical Professions (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>The Bill aims to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) enable direct provision of services by physiotherapists and occupational therapists to patients without a doctor's referral; (b) enable Chinese medicine practitioners to make referrals to radiographers and medical laboratory technologists; and (c) make continuing professional education a mandatory requirement for renewal of registration for all five supplementary medical professions (i.e. physiotherapists, occupational therapists, optometrists, radiographers and medical laboratory technologists). 	FHB	2 nd half
<p>13. Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>The Bill aims to introduce a licensing regime for virtual asset services providers; a two-tier registration regime for dealers in precious metals and stones; and miscellaneous technical amendments.</p>	FSTB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>14. Bankruptcy and Companies Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Bankruptcy Ordinance (Cap. 6) and the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32) for implementation of an Electronic Submission System and other facilitation measures to enhance the services of Official Receiver’s Office.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>15. Financial Benchmark Bill</p> <p>To establish an appropriate regulatory framework for financial benchmarks to safeguard the credibility and reliability of financial benchmarks in Hong Kong, and to mitigate potential risks to Hong Kong’s financial system that may arise from legacy contracts following the permanent cessation of certain financial benchmarks.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>16. Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill to amend the tax arrangements for offshore passive income</p> <p>To amend the tax arrangements for offshore passive income for companies with no substantial economic activity in Hong Kong with a view to combating cross-border tax evasion and addressing the concerns of the European Union (“EU”) about situations of double non-taxation in relation to such companies.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>17. Inland Revenue (Amendment) Bill to implement BEPS 2.0</p> <p>To implement the international tax rules promulgated by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (“OECD”) for addressing the base erosion and profit shifting (“BEPS”) risks arising from the digitalisation of the economy (commonly known as “BEPS 2.0”) and to put in place other related tax measures.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>18. Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Tax Concessions for Family-owned Investment Holding Vehicle) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to provide tax concessions to attract more family offices to Hong Kong to enhance the city’s status as an asset and wealth management hub.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>19. Insurance (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To implement a risk-based capital regime for insurance companies to align Hong Kong’s regulatory standards with international standards.</p>	FSTB	2 nd half
<p>20. Building Management (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344) (“BMO”) to ensure that the BMO keeps pace with changes, encourage owners to attend owners’ corporation (“OC”) meetings in person, and improve the traceability of the</p>	HAB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>operation of OCs by enhancing its transparency, accountability and related record keeping, with a view to facilitating owners' discharge of their responsibilities to manage their buildings properly.</p>		
<p>21. Electronic Transactions (Amendment) Bill</p>	ITB	2 nd half
<p>To facilitate bureaux and departments to adopt technology in enhancing public services.</p>		
<p>22. Courts (Remote Hearing) Bill</p>	Judiciary / CSO	2 nd half
<p>To introduce legislative amendments to provide an option to the Court to order remote hearing in civil and criminal proceedings as it sees fit, having regard to all relevant circumstances, as well as the dual requirements of open justice and fairness.</p>		
<p>23. Family Procedure Bill</p>	Judiciary / CSO	2 nd half
<p>To take forward the recommendations set out in the 2015 Final Report of the Chief Justice's Working Party on Family Procedure Rules by enabling courts to implement procedural reforms to the family justice system for enhancing efficiency of family proceedings which would help reduce the time and costs for affected parties.</p>		

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>24. Designated Savings Accounts for Severance Payment and Long Service Payment Bill</p> <p>To provide for a compulsory savings scheme for meeting employers’ potential severance payment and long service payment expenses following the abolition of the “offsetting” arrangement under the Mandatory Provident Fund (“MPF”) system.</p>	LWB	1 st half
<p>25. Employment and Retirement Schemes Legislation (Offsetting Arrangement) (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To abolish the “offsetting” arrangement under the MPF system to fulfill the Government’s pledge to strengthen MPF as one of the retirement protection pillars.</p>	LWB	1 st half
<p>26. Occupational Safety and Occupational Health Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill</p> <p>To enhance protection of workers’ safety and health by raising the maximum penalties for occupational safety and health offences.</p>	LWB	1 st half
<p>27. Residential Care Homes Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill</p> <p>To enhance the quality of residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities.</p>	LWB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>28. Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To revise the statutory time limit for death registration and provide legal basis for introduction of certain electronic services.</p>	SB	1 st half
<p>29. Safeguarding National Security Bill</p> <p>To implement Article 23 of the Basic Law, to enhance relevant laws for safeguarding national security, and to provide for related matters.</p>	SB	2 nd half
<p>30. Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Shipping Commercial Principal Tax Concessions) Bill</p> <p>To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance (Cap. 112) to provide tax concessions to attract more ship managers, ship agents and ship brokers to set up presence and conduct shipping business in Hong Kong to enhance Hong Kong’s position as an international maritime center. The tax measure is recommended by the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board.</p>	THB	1 st half
<p>31. Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To increase the penalties for illegal carriage of passengers for hire or reward by motor vehicles for enhancing the deterrent effect.</p>	THB	1 st half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>32. Taxi-driver-offence Points 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
<p>33. Marine Safety (Operation of Vessels under Influence of Alcohol and Drugs) Bill</p> <p>To combat drink and drug boating by introducing compulsory tests for alcohol and drug to improve marine safety.</p>	THB	2 nd half
<p>34. Pilotage (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To amend the requirements of the fitness examination of pilots and to refine existing practices and facilitate enforcement under the Pilotage Ordinance (Cap. 84) and its subsidiary legislation.</p>	THB	2 nd half
<p>35. Road Traffic (Amendment) (Autonomous Vehicles) Bill</p> <p>To provide for a regulatory regime to enable the wider and more flexible trial and use of autonomous vehicles, including an autonomous vehicle passenger-carrying transportation system being planned by the Airport Authority Hong Kong running on the Airport City Link.</p>	THB	2 nd half

Title and Purpose of the Bill	Bureau	Indicative timing within 2022 legislative session
<p>36. Shipping Legislation (Electronic Certificates) (Amendment) Bill</p> <p>To facilitate the use of electronic certificates for Hong Kong registered ships to enhance the efficiency of marine services.</p>	THB	2 nd half
<p>37. Smart Traffic Enforcement (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill</p> <p>To enable the issuance of electronic fixed penalty notices against traffic offences to enhance the efficiency of traffic enforcement and strengthen the deterrence effect, so as to promote better driving attitude.</p>	THB	2 nd half