Stablecoins Bill Debate and voting arrangements

Object of the Bill: Seeks to:

- (a) provide for the supervision of activities involving stablecoins;
- (b) provide the Monetary Authority ("MA") with investigatory and enforcement powers; and
- (c) provide for incidental and related matters.

Joint debate: Clauses and Schedules with no amendments, and clauses and Schedules with amendments and a new clause proposed by the Secretary for Financial Services

- Clauses 1 to 175 and Schedules 1 to 8, and the proposed new clause 140A

Joint debate on the original clauses, Schedules and the amendments (including the proposed new clause 140A).

SFST's amendments

Definition of "permitted offeror" who can offer specified stablecoins

and the Treasury ("SFST")

Clause 9

- To amend clause 9(5) to include in the definition of "permitted offeror" a person who is granted a licence under section 8F of the Payment Systems and Stored Value Facilities Ordinance (Cap. 584), in order to allow stored value facility licensees to offer specified stablecoins.¹

Duty of licensee to report inability to meet obligations, etc.

Clause 25

To amend clause 25(1) to remove, among others, "it appears to" such that the duty to report to MA in clause 25(1) is triggered simply if any of the relevant circumstances arises (i.e. a licensee is likely to become unable to meet its obligations, is insolvent or is about to suspend payment), in order to **avoid a merely subjective decision by the licensee** as to whether or not to take the actions.²

See paragraph 28 of the Report of the Bills Committee on Stablecoins Bill (<u>LC Paper No. CB(1)843/2025</u>) for details.

See paragraph 49 of the aforesaid Report for details.

Issue of magistrate's warrant

Clause 124

- To amend clause 124(2)(b) to make it clear that the person specified therein (i.e. a person appointed under section 5A(3) of the Exchange Fund Ordinance (Cap. 66) to assist MA) for the purpose of section 124(1) (i.e. on information on oath laid by a person specified in section 124(2), a magistrate may, if the specified condition is met, issue a warrant) does not include "an investigator" referred to in clause 124(2)(a), in order to **avoid overlap** in the two paragraphs.

Procedural requirements for MA to impose a sanction on a regulated person

Clause 132

To amend clause 132(2) to include in the list of matters to be stated in a **written notice imposing a sanction** on a regulated person by MA (i) the time at which the decision to impose a sanction is to take effect, (ii) the terms in which the regulated person is to be cautioned, warned or reprimanded and (iii) the fact that the person may refer MA's decision to the Stablecoin Review Tribunal for review, in order to **more accurately reflect the legislative intent**.

Stay of execution of specified decision

Proposed new clause 140A

To remove clause 140(5) and add the proposed new clause 140A to **empower** the Stablecoin Review Tribunal to, after determining the person's application for a stay, **stay the execution** of MA's specified decision (subject to any condition that the Stablecoin Review Tribunal considers appropriate), in order to **better reflect the policy intent**.

Textual amendments

Clauses 4, 12, 33, 41, 84, 108, 112, 122, 142, 143, 145, 155, 160, 170, and Schedules 2, 6 and 7

- To make textual amendments to clause 4(1)(a)(iii) and (2) and section 1(3)(a) of Schedule 2, in order to make it **more easily comprehensible and readable**.
- To make a textual amendment to the **heading** of clause 12, in order to make it **more easily comprehensible**.
- To make a textual amendment to clause 84(1)(b), in order to better reflect that the chief executive and director mentioned in that subsection is the chief executive and director of the licensee concerned.
- To make textual amendments to clause 145(4)(a) and (5), to **correct** the original reference to "section 142(3)" to "section 142(5)" instead.
- To make minor textual amendments to the **English text** of clauses 41(2)(b), 142(1)(m), 145(4)(b)(ii) and section 4(1) of Schedule 2.
- To make minor textual amendments to the **Chinese text** of clauses 33(3)(d), 108(1), 112(8), 122(4)(c), 142(3)(d), 143(2), 155(2)(c), 160(4)(d) and (6), 170(4), sections 7(6) and 11(b) of Schedule 6, and section 2(3)(b)(i) of Schedule 7.

Voting order

- : 1. Clauses and Schedules with no amendment (i.e. clauses 1 to 3, 5 to 8, 10 and 11, 13 to 24, 26 to 32, 34 to 40, 42 to 83, 85 to 107, 109 to 111, 113 to 121, 123, 125 to 131, 133 to 139, 141, 144, 146 to 154, 156 to 159, 161 to 169, 171 to 175, and Schedules 1, 3 to 5 and 8) standing part of the Bill
 - 2. SFST's amendments (to amend clauses 4, 9, 12, 25, 33, 41, 84, 108, 112, 122, 124, 132, 140, 142, 143, 145, 155, 160, 170, and Schedules 2, 6 and 7)
 - 3. Clauses 4, 9, 12, 25, 33, 41, 84, 108, 112, 122, 124, 132, 140, 142, 143, 145, 155, 160, 170, and Schedules 2, 6 and 7 with or without amendments standing part of the Bill
 - 4. The proposed new clause 140A be read the second time and added to the Bill

SFST's amendments

(set out in LC Paper No. CB(2)912/2025(01) issued on 14 May 2025)

Council Business Divisions
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
19 May 2025