

**Post Secondary Colleges (Amendment) Bill 2025****Debate and voting arrangements****Object of the Bill :**

Seeks to:

- (a) amend the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) and its subsidiary legislation to:
- (i) provide for the registration, refusal, cancellation and suspension of registration of post secondary colleges (“Colleges”), members of the Boards of Governors (“BoGs”), Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and teachers of Colleges;
  - (ii) adjust various requirements including the requirements for the governance structure of and approving names of registered Colleges;
  - (iii) provide for the award of degrees, etc. by registered Colleges;
  - (iv) provide for the submission of strategic plans and annual reports, and the publication of key financial information, of registered Colleges;
  - (v) remove obsolete requirements; and
  - (vi) provide for transitional matters; and
- (b) make related and consequential amendments.

<b>Joint debate : Clauses with no amendments, and clauses with amendments proposed by the Secretary for Education (“SED”)</b>	<b>— Clauses 1 to 48</b>
---	--------------------------

Joint debate on the original clauses and the amendments.

**SED’s amendments****Commencement of the Bill****Clauses 1, 20, 28, 34 and 36**

- To amend clause 1 to provide that the Bill, if passed, would come into operation on **1 August 2026**, except that the clauses relating to the delegation of authority to approve the award of degrees would come into operation on 1 August 2025 and the clause relating to the prohibition of issue of sub-degrees or documents resembling sub-degrees by schools registered under the Education Ordinance (Cap. 279) would come into operation on 1 August 2028.
- To make **consequential amendments** to clauses 20, 28, 34 and 36.

## Written notice for refusal of registration

### **Clauses 9 and 11**

- To amend the proposed new section 4A(8) of Cap. 320 to provide that **after the refusal to approve an application for the registration of a College** is made, the Permanent Secretary for Education (“Permanent Secretary”) must, by written notice, **inform the relevant applicant** of the refusal and the reasons for the refusal “**as soon as reasonably practicable**”, so as to align the time limit for issuing the written notice with other clauses of the Bill.
- To amend the proposed new section 5A(7) of Cap. 320 to provide that **after the refusal to approve an application for the registration of a member of BoG, a President, a Vice-President, or a teacher** of a registered College is made, the Permanent Secretary must, by written notice, **inform the relevant applicant and subject person** of the refusal and the reasons for the refusal “**as soon as reasonably practicable**”, so as to align the time limit for issuing the written notice with other clauses of the Bill.

## Powers of the Secretary for Education

### **Clause 20**

- To amend the proposed new Part 5 of Cap. 320 by adding a proposed new section 13A to empower **SED to give any directions that SED considers appropriate with respect to the performance of a function under Cap. 320** to the Permanent Secretary or an authorized person, or both, and to provide that **a person to whom a direction is given must**, in performing the function, **comply with that direction**, so as to spell out SED’s powers and responsibilities.
- To make related amendments to the heading of the abovementioned Part 5.

**Voting order** : 1. Clauses with no amendments (i.e. clauses 2 to 8, 10, 12 to 19, 21 to 27, 29 to 33, 35 and 37 to 48) standing part of the Bill  
2. SED’s amendments (to amend clauses 1, 9, 11, 20, 28, 34 and 36)  
3. Clauses 1, 9, 11, 20, 28, 34 and 36 with or without amendments standing part of the Bill

### **SED’s amendments**

(set out in LC Paper No. CB(2)1203/2025(01) issued on 12 June 2025)

Council Business Divisions

Legislative Council Secretariat

23 June 2025