立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. LS135/99-00

Paper for the House Committee Meeting of the Legislative Council on 12 May 2000

Legal Service Division Further Report on Insurance Companies (Amendment) Bill 2000

At the House Committee meeting on 11 February 2000, it was decided that a decision on the Bill should be deferred pending clarification on certain drafting and policy aspects of the Bill with the Administration by the Legal Service Division.

2. After consideration of our comments, the Administration now proposes some Committee Stage amendments (CSA) to clarify the Bill as follows :-

- (a) the proposed requirement on an appointed actuary to comply with the prescribed standards or other standards as the Insurance Authority (IA) accepts as being comparable to the prescribed standards will now be removed from section 15 to a new section 15C to avoid unnecessary complications to the existing section 15;
- (b) to make clear that where the IA discloses, as proposed in the Bill, information as to financial and statistical matters submitted to him by individual insurers and by Lloyd's, the restriction on further disclosure by the recipient of the information unless with consent of the IA will not apply, because the information should have become public knowledge;
- (c) the general restriction on the IA not to disclose information relating to the affairs of any policy holder of an insurer would not be extended to cases where disclosures are for the purposes of existing section 53A(2) and (3)(b) and (c), which relate to criminal, civil and other specific court proceedings.

3. The series of correspondence with the Administration, including the CSA to be moved by the Administration (letter of 8 May 2000 from the Secretary for Financial Services), is attached for Members' information.

4. With the proposed CSA, the legal and drafting aspects of the Bill are in order. Subject to members' views, the Bill is ready for resumption of Second Reading debate.

Prepared by

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