

	<b>Bill (Policy bureau/office concerned)</b>	<b>Objectives of the Bills</b>	<b>Groups/sectors involved</b>	<b>Impacts to the society and relevant sectors if the Bill cannot be passed within the current term of the Legislative Council</b>
1.	Copyright (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Commerce and Economic Development Bureau)	To enhance the copyright exceptions relating to persons with print disability in the Copyright Ordinance to bring them into line with the standards under the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled.	Persons with print disability and non-profit-making organisations providing services for these persons	If the Bill is not passed, the copyright exceptions relating to persons with print disability in the Copyright Ordinance cannot be extended to persons with perceptual or reading disability (including dyslexia). Moreover, non-profit-making organisations providing services to persons with print disability will not be able to enjoy copyright exceptions for cross-border exchange of accessible copies of copyright works with their counterparts outside Hong Kong.
2.	Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Profits Tax Concessions for Insurance-related Businesses) Bill 2019 (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau)	To provide 50% profits tax relief (i.e. the tax rate will be 8.25%) for all general reinsurance business of direct insurers, selected general insurance business of direct insurers and selected insurance brokerage business to promote the development of marine insurance, underwriting of specialty risks and high value-added maritime services.	Insurance industry	Hong Kong's insurance industry is an integral part of our financial services industry. Hong Kong is also one of the major insurance hubs in the world. In the light of international competition, other insurance hubs have introduced different measures including tax incentives to enhance their own competitiveness.  The proposed profits tax relief in the Bill will make the tax arrangements of Hong Kong generally competitive vis-à-vis other insurance hubs in the region. If the Bill cannot be passed, the business environment of the local insurance industry cannot be enhanced, and the industry's ability to seize new opportunities, including those arising from the Belt and Road Initiative, would be hindered.

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3.	Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Tax Concessions) Bill 2020 (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau)	To implement the tax concession proposal in 2020-21 Budget to reduce salaries tax, tax under personal assessment and profits tax by 100%, subject to a ceiling of \$20,000 per case for year of assessment 2019/20	Taxpayers	If the Bill is not passed, 1.95 million taxpayers of salaries tax and tax under personal assessment, and 141 000 tax-paying corporations and unincorporated businesses could not enjoy timely tax concessions. The tax assessment and collection work of the Inland Revenue Department would also be adversely affected.
4.	Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau)	To give the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority (MPFA) explicit power to set up a wholly owned subsidiary as the legal entity to build, own and operate the eMPF Platform for more efficient administration of Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) schemes; and enable MPFA to charge MPF approved trustees the statutory Annual Registration Fee (ARF) at a level of 0.03% of the net asset value (NAV) of an MPF scheme.	MPF industry, MPFA, and around 4.3 million of MPF scheme members	<p>The eMPF Platform is one of the important reforms since the implementation of the MPF System in 2000. Through standardization, streamlining and automation of MPF scheme administration processes, it enhances operational efficiency, creates room for reduction of MPF management fees and a predominantly paperless MPF experience. The government's current target is to have the eMPF Platform ready by 2022 at the earliest and the on-boarding by all trustees by phases in the subsequent two to three years. In this connection, the government needs to allow sufficient time for the eMPF Platform Company to perform various preparatory work for the implementation of the eMPF Platform. Impasse or delay in the passage of the Bill will inevitably bring about negative impact on the above-mentioned timetable.</p> <p>On the other hand, if MPFA is not able to charge MPF approved trustees the statutory ARF as soon as possible in accordance with the mechanism and level as prescribed in the law to generate a stable stream of income, it has to rely only on the unstable investment return from the one-off Capital Grant of \$5 billion approved by the Legislative Council in 1998, which will render it difficult to maintain MPFA's annual operating expenditure and long term financial sustainability, and also affect the capacity of MPFA in fulfilling its statutory obligations.</p>

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5.	Supplementary Appropriation (2018- 2019) Bill (Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau)	To seek approval for supplementary appropriation of \$36,753,650,048.95 from the general revenue for the services of the Government in the 2018-2019 financial year	Not applicable	In accordance with section 9 of the Public Finance Ordinance (“PFO”) <sup>1</sup> , the Government needs to introduce a Supplementary Appropriation Bill into Legislative Council (“LegCo”) as soon as practicable. The purpose is to reconcile the differences between the sums originally appropriated for each head of expenditure under the General Revenue Account and the actual expenditure if these sums are exceeded.
6.	Fisheries Protection (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Food and Health Bureau)	To empower the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation to exercise discretion within a confined scope to consider the applications for registration of local fishing vessels which did not possess a valid operating licence on 15 June 2012	Fisheries	If the Bill is not passed, the affected fishermen will need to wait for a longer time to apply for the registration of their local fishing vessels, which would run counter to the expectation of the affected fishermen and also pose additional difficulties for them to provide the required proof in supporting their applications when the legislation is eventually passed in the future.
7.	Pharmacy and Poisons (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Food and Health Bureau)	To provide a clear and dedicated regulatory framework for the research and therapeutic use of Advanced Therapy Products (ATPs) in order to safeguard public health and facilitate their development.	biomedical sector, medical sector and patients	If the Bill is not passed, we would not be able to provide a clear and dedicated regulatory framework for ATPs to safeguard public health. The research and therapeutic use of ATPs would also be hindered.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 9 of the PFO provides that: “If at the close of account for any financial year it is found that expenditure charged to any head is in excess of the sum appropriated for that head by an Appropriation Ordinance, the excess shall be included in a Supplementary Appropriation Bill which shall be introduced into the Legislative Council as soon as practicable after the close of the financial year to which the excess expenditure relates.”

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8.	Employment (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Labour and Welfare Bureau)	To amend the Employment Ordinance to extend the statutory maternity leave (ML) by four weeks; and to propose two technical amendments including shortening the period of pregnancy mentioned in the definition of miscarriage and allowing a certificate of attendance to be accepted as proof in respect of entitlement to sickness allowance for a day on which a female employee attends a medical examination in relation to her pregnancy	Pregnant employees	<p>The Government proposes that the ML pay for the additional four weeks' statutory ML be wholly funded by the Government (though a cap would be set) by way of reimbursement to employers through an administrative scheme. The Labour Department will develop a new Disbursement Information System (DIS) for implementing the new Reimbursement of Maternity Leave Pay Scheme (RMLPS). Subject to the passage of the Bill and approval of the required resources (including an additional directorate officer and funding for DIS) within the current LegCo session, the Government aims to implement RMLPS by end-2021.</p> <p>If the Bill and proposal for the required resources could not be passed, the preparatory work of the Government will be affected and the implementation of RMLPS will be delayed subject to the progress of the new LegCo session.</p>
9.	Freight Containers (Safety) (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Transport and Housing Bureau)	To amend the Freight Containers (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 506) and its two Schedules to implement the latest requirements of the International Convention for Safe Containers, as promulgated by the International Maritime Organization, governing the safety of handling, stacking and transporting of freight containers.	Container ships trade industry	Failing to pass the Bill will result in non-compliance of local legislation with the latest requirements on the International Convention for Safe Containers.

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10.	Inland Revenue (Amendment) (Ship Leasing Tax Concessions) Bill 2020 (Transport and Housing Bureau)	To amend the Inland Revenue Ordinance to give profits tax concessions to qualifying ship lessors and qualifying ship leasing managers, so as to enhance Hong Kong's position as a ship leasing centre in the Asia-Pacific region and an international maritime centre.	The maritime and ship finance industries in Hong Kong	If the Bill is not passed, the relevant sectors will be unable to benefit from the tax concessions. Also, Hong Kong cannot raise its competitiveness through tax measures in attracting more ship leasing companies to set up business in Hong Kong and enhance its position as an international maritime and financial centre when facing the keen competition from other port cities in the region.
11.	Rating (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Transport and Housing Bureau)	To introduce Special Rates on vacant first-hand private residential units with a view to encouraging developers to expedite the supply of completed first-hand private residential units in the market.	The real estate sector	If the Bill is not passed, the Government will not be able to introduce Special Rates on vacant first-hand private residential units, and hence cannot encourage developers to expedite the supply of completed first-hand private residential units in the market.
12.	Road Traffic Legislation (Parking Spaces) (Amendment) Bill 2019 (Transport and Housing Bureau)	To provide a legal basis for the operation of the new generation on-street parking meters with additional features.	Motorists	The new generation on-street parking meters will accept multiple electronic payment means, including remote payment through a mobile application, for payment of the parking meter fees for motorists' convenience. The new parking meters will also be equipped with sensors to detect whether individual on-street metered parking spaces are occupied. Real-time information will be provided to assist motorists in finding vacant on-street metered parking spaces. As some of the functions of the new parking meters can only be rolled out after the passage of the Amendment Bill by the Legislative Council, motorists would not be able to benefit from the convenience brought about by the new parking meters if the Bill is not passed.

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13.	Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2019 (Department of Justice)	To propose miscellaneous amendments to various Ordinances, including a set of amendments proposed by the Judiciary which seeks to amend the High Court Ordinance (Cap. 4) to streamline certain court procedures to facilitate the more efficient handling of some cases, so that all cases can be handled as expeditiously as is reasonably practicable.	Those proposed amendments to the High Court Ordinance mainly involve the Judiciary and court users	The early passage of the Bill would help keep our statute book updated and improved in an efficient manner. Specifically, the proposed amendments to the High Court Ordinance seek to enhance the Judiciary's overall efficiency in handling cases, thereby facilitating access to justice by the parties and putting judicial resources to the best use. If the Bill is not passed, this may affect the Judiciary's overall efficiency in handling cases.
14.	The Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Bill (The Judiciary/CSO)	The Court Proceedings (Electronic Technology) Bill aims to make the necessary legislative amendments to implement the Judiciary's Information Technology Strategy Plan ("ITSP"). Under the ITSP, an integrated court case management system ("iCMS" ) is being implemented to streamline and standardise electronic court processes across different levels of courts as appropriate. This will in the long run improve the efficiency of litigation in Hong Kong and reduce paper use.	All court users including the legal sector	As part of its long term strategy, the Judiciary is actively pursuing the greater use of IT to support and facilitate the conduct of court business. The demand for the use of IT has, in particular, increased in the recent months in the light of the public health situation. If the Bill which provides the legislative backing for e filing and transaction (including e payment) for court proceedings is not passed, the obstacles and uncertainties in the prevailing law cannot be removed, thus affecting the full implementation of iCMS. This will hinder the use of IT in the handling of court business in the longer run.