

HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION

Secretariat: LG2 Floor, High Court, 38 Queensway, Hong Kong E-mail: <u>info@hkba.org</u> Website: <u>www.hkba.org</u> Telephone: 2869 0210 Fax: 2869 0189

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The Hong Kong Bar Association welcomes the Administration's decision to defer voting on the Bill and to consult the public on this important legislative proposal. This is what the Bar Association has all along invited the Administration to do.

The Hong Kong Bar Association adds that the public consultation is only meaningful if the Administration publishes a consultation document setting out and discussing the rationale(s) for the legislative proposal, the various options considered and their pros and cons, as well as detailed arguments in support of the Administration's claim that the legislative proposal and its variant(s) are lawful and consistent with the Basic Law of the HKSAR.

The Hong Kong Bar Association encourages the public to exercise their right to be heard by contributing to the discussion and debate on a matter which has far reaching and fundamental importance.

HONG KONG BAR ASSOCIATION 4th July 2011