



LegCo President's Decision on Member's Bill City University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Bill 2006 (Decision on 2 May 2006)

Since the last issue (Jan 2006), the LegCo President has made one decision under Rule 51(3) and (4) of the Rules of Procedure of the LegCo¹ on 2 May 2006 in respect of the City University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Bill 2006. The Bill was proposed by Dr Hon Raymond Ho Chung Tai. The purpose of the Bill is to amend the City University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap 1132) to change the structure of the Council of the City University of Hong Kong ("CityU"), reduce the total number of Council members, make consequential amendments and provide for transitional matters.

Having considered the advice of Counsel to the Legislature in the light of the views of the Secretary for Education and Manpower on the Bill, and having regard to Dr Ho's advice that he had no comment on the Administration's views, the LegCo President was satisfied that the Bill related to Government's policy concerning the appointments of the CityU Council members. The LegCo President was not satisfied that the Bill "relates

to" the Government's policy to order institutions funded by the University Grants Committee to review their governance and management structure. Although the Bill is the product of the review conducted by the Review Committee on University Governance and Management established by the CityU Council pursuant to the Government order, it cannot be said that the Bill has a substantive effect on the Government's policy to order the institutions to conduct reviews, and hence relates to that policy.

The LegCo President decided that the Bill related to Government policies within the meaning of Rule 51(4) (as it related to Government's policy concerning the appointments of CityU Council members) and required the written consent of the CE for its introduction.

Written consent for the introduction of the Bill was given by the CE and it was introduced into the LegCo for first reading on 19 October 2006.



¹ For further discussion on the operation of Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure of the LegCo, please refer to *The Focus* at p 15 of Issue No 1 of the Bulletin.