

9 Legislative Amendments

The following pieces of legislation enacted during the year 2014-15 are related to matters under the purview of the Department.

Inland Revenue (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance 2014 (Ordinance No. 10 of 2014)

This Ordinance amended the Inland Revenue Ordinance to give effect to the following proposals in the Budget for the 2014-15 financial year:

- (1) to increase the allowance granted for maintaining a parent/grandparent aged 60 or above from \$38,000 to \$40,000, and the additional allowance granted for residing continuously with that parent/grandparent from \$38,000 to \$40,000;
- (2) to increase the allowance granted for maintaining a parent/grandparent aged between 55 and 59 from \$19,000 to \$20,000, and the additional allowance granted for residing continuously with that parent/grandparent from \$19,000 to \$20,000;
- (3) to increase the maximum deduction amount of elderly residential care expenses from \$76,000 to \$80,000; and
- (4) to reduce the amounts of salaries tax, profits tax and tax under personal assessment payable for the year of assessment 2013-14 by 75%, subject to a maximum of \$10,000 in each case.

Stamp Duty (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance 2014 (Ordinance No. 14 of 2014)

This Ordinance amended the Stamp Duty Ordinance to implement the following new measures to further address the overheated property market by:

- (1) introducing higher Scale 1 rates of the ad valorem stamp duty (AVD) on certain instruments dealing with immovable properties executed on or after 23 February 2013; and
- (2) advancing the charging of AVD on instruments relating to non-residential property transactions from the conveyance on sale to the agreement for sale executed on or after 23 February 2013.

Stamp Duty (Amendment) Ordinance 2015 (Ordinance No. 4 of 2015)

This Ordinance amended the Stamp Duty Ordinance to give effect to the proposal in the Budget for the 2014-15 financial year to waive stamp duty payable on the transfer of shares or units of all exchange traded funds.





Securities and Futures and Companies Legislation (Uncertificated Securities Market Amendment) Ordinance 2015 (Ordinance No. 5 of 2015)

This Ordinance amended various enactments to facilitate the establishment and implementation of an uncertificated securities market regime in Hong Kong. As far as the Stamp Duty Ordinance is concerned, the amendments enable the setting up of a new stamping arrangement for off-Exchange transfers involving participating shares in uncertificated form. The relevant provisions will come into operation on a date to be appointed by the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury in a Gazette Notice.

Inland Revenue (Exchange of Information relating to Taxes) Order

Country	Date of Order	Nature
United States of America	15 April 2014	Exchange of Information relating to Taxes

Inland Revenue (Double Taxation Relief and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income) Order

Country	Date of Order	Nature
Korea	30 September 2014	Double Taxation Relief and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income

Inland Revenue (Double Taxation Relief and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income) (Amendment) Order 2014

Country	Date of Order	Nature
Vietnam	30 September 2014	Double Taxation Relief and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income