

# Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Bill [HL]

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AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
ON REPORT

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**Clause 6**

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK

Clause 6, page 12, line 1, at end insert –

- “(4A) Where a Northern Ireland Minister or Northern Ireland department does not perform their identity and language functions, the Secretary of State must act if no progress has made in regard to those functions.
- (4B) Where the First Minister and deputy First Minister do not act jointly to appoint an Irish Language Commissioner in accordance with section 78J(1) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 within the period of 30 days of that section coming into force or a vacancy arising, the Secretary of State must act to appoint an Irish Language Commissioner within a further period of 30 days.
- (4C) Where the First Minister and deputy First Minister do not act jointly to approve best practice standards in accordance with section 78L(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 within the period of 30 days of best practice standards being submitted to them, the Secretary of State must within a further period of 30 days approve the best practice standards with or without modifications.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would provide a timescale for the Secretary of State to step in if there is no Northern Ireland Executive in place in order to execute the functions of the legislation.*

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK

Clause 6, page 12, line 13, at end insert –

- “(c) a function conferred by or under section 28D of the Northern Ireland Act 1998;”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would make provision within the legislation to include the Irish language strategy as a function to comply with the requirements of the January 2020 New Decade New Approach Agreement.*

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*1 July 2022*

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PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS