

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 1

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 1, line 10, after “speech” insert “within the law”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that the definition of freedom of speech in section A1 is identical to that within A3.

Page 1, leave out line 14

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the definition of “members” in this paragraph.

Page 2, line 4, leave out “, beliefs”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the meaning of belief, and the compatibility of this with other areas of the law.

Page 2, line 5, leave out “, beliefs”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the meaning of belief, and the compatibility of this with other areas of the law.

Page 2, line 12, after “wisdom” insert “within all fields covered by their professional responsibilities”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is to clarify the distinction between academic freedom, within the academic context, and freedom of speech for academics and other citizens within the wider public sphere.

Page 2, line 13, leave out “and controversial or unpopular opinions”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe whether "controversial or unpopular opinions" not based on evidence should be included in the protection of academic freedom.

Page 2, leave out lines 19 and 20

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the practicality and appropriateness of the intrusion into university promotion processes the paragraph would involve.

Page 2, leave out lines 21 to 29

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the practicality and appropriateness of the intrusion into university appointment processes this would involve.

Page 2, leave out lines 30 to 34

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe how the costs of the provision of security for controversial meetings should be distributed among appropriate bodies.

Page 2, line 37, leave out ", beliefs"

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the meaning of belief, and the compatibility of this with other areas of the law.

Clause 3

LORD WALLACE OF SALTIRE

Page 4, line 29, leave out "and members"

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the definition of "members" in this paragraph.

Page 4, line 43, leave out ", beliefs"

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the meaning of belief, and the compatibility of this with other areas of the law.

Page 5, leave out lines 1 to 7

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe how the costs of the provision of security for controversial meetings should be distributed among appropriate bodies.

Clause 8

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 9, line 27, leave out first “member”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to probe the definition of “member” in this paragraph.

Lord Wallace of Saltaire gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

Member’s explanatory statement

This is to probe why the existing Office of the Independent Adjudicator is not sufficient to respond to student complaints.

Clause 9

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 14, leave out lines 3 to 41

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe what evidence there is of significant overseas funding of, or influence over, student unions.

Clause 10

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 15, line 17, at end insert –

“(3) The Free Speech Director is to be nominated by the Secretary of State, after consultation with Universities UK and subject to the approval of the House of Commons Select Committee for Education.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to ensure the independence of those appointed to the position of Director for Freedom of Speech.

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6 October 2022
