

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 1

LORD SANDHURST

Page 2, line 35, at end insert—

“references to academic staff include any academic staff (however engaged or employed), honorary, visiting and emeritus academic members of a provider and any other person held out as holding any academic position at the provider;”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to extend the Bill’s protections to all academic staff, including those at junior level or those precariously employed or engaged.

After Clause 4

LORD SIKKA

Insert the following new Clause—

“Duty on providers of grants

After section A7 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017 (inserted by section 4) insert—

“Research grants

A8 Duty on providers of grants

- (1) Providers of grants of funds must take reasonable steps to ensure that they do not interfere with the freedom of speech of academics applying for research grants.
- (2) In fulfilling the duty under subsection (1), providers must not require changes to academic research as a condition for a grant, in relation to the following—
 - (a) research design,
 - (b) data collection, or
 - (c) distribution of the research.”

The Schedule

LORD SANDHURST

Page 19, line 38, at end insert—

“(ca) references to academic staff have the same meaning as in Part A1 (see section A1(11));”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential on the amendment to section A1(11) tabled by Lord Sandhurst. It applies the new definition of “academic staff” to the OfS’s regulatory duties regarding freedom of speech and academic freedom as set out in Part 1 of the Higher Education and Research Act 2017.

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11 October 2022
