

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 1

LORD WILLETTS

Page 1, line 17, leave out “securing that” and insert “not denying”

Page 1, line 18, leave out “any premises of the provider is not denied” and insert “premises of the provider”

Page 2, leave out lines 1 and 2

Member’s explanatory statement

Along with other amendments in the name of Lord Willetts to this Clause, this amendment would allow universities flexibility to move events but not cancel them.

Page 3, line 36, at end insert “, having due regard for all other relevant legal duties”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is to ensure – and make explicit – that the Bill does not impose duties on universities that are inconsistent with other legal duties that apply to them.

Clause 3

LORD WILLETTS

Page 4, line 32, leave out “securing that” and insert “not denying”

Member’s explanatory statement

Along with other amendments in the name of Lord Willetts to this Clause, this amendment would allow student unions flexibility to move events but not cancel them.

Page 4, line 33, leave out “any premises occupied by the students' union is not denied” and insert “premises occupied by the students' union”

Member's explanatory statement

Along with other amendments in the name of Lord Willetts to this Clause, this amendment would allow student unions flexibility to move events but not cancel them.

Page 4, leave out lines 36 and 37

Member's explanatory statement

Along with other amendments in the name of Lord Willetts to this Clause, this amendment would allow student unions flexibility to move events but not cancel them.

Page 4, line 38, leave out "is not denied"

Member's explanatory statement

Along with other amendments in the name of Lord Willetts to this Clause, this amendment would allow student unions flexibility to move events but not cancel them.

Clause 5

LORD WILLETTS

Page 7, line 11, leave out "may" and insert "must"

Page 7, line 12, leave out "identify" and insert "consult on and publish guidance on"

Page 7, line 14, after "practice" insert "in a timely manner"

Member's explanatory statement

Along with other amendments to this Clause in the name of Lord Willetts, this amendment would ensure that universities and others know what their free speech duties require of them at any one time and can consult the OfS for advice where this is not clear.

Clause 8

LORD WILLETTS

Page 10, line 20, leave out "may" and insert "must"

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of this amendment is to specify the route through which complaints must go, i.e., the OfS cannot intervene until a university's own procedures, or those of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, are exhausted.

Page 11, line 2, leave out "may allow" and insert "must require"

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment will require the OfS to dismiss frivolous or vexatious complaints, which should reduce bureaucratic burden on the OfS and should make frivolous or vexatious complaints to universities less likely – so reducing bureaucratic burden on universities too.

Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

20 October 2022
