

Public Order Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Clause 1

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Clause 1, page 1, line 15, at end insert –

“(1A) In this section, “attach” means to connect by mechanical means, and does not include circumstances where persons, objects or land are merely touching, holding or being held, or seated or placed upon each other.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes the definition of “attach” in the Clause 1 offence of locking on, and whether it includes for example holding hands or sitting down.

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Clause 1, page 1, line 18, at end insert –

“(2A) It is a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1) that their actions were likely to avoid greater disruption or were otherwise in the public interest.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment creates a defence for actions that are in the public interest or which avoid greater disruption.

BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Clause 1, page 1, line 18, at end insert –

“(2A) The defence in subsection (2) does not apply to attaching an object to land for the purpose of extracting fossil fuels.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes whether the offence of locking on applies to serious disruption caused by the fossil fuel industry.

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