

Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 4

LORD ROOKER

Clause 4, page 4, line 16, leave out subsection (3)

Member's explanatory statement

This subsection gives power to Ministers as to what the required information is to be.

Clause 6

LORD ROOKER

Clause 6, page 5, line 20, leave out subsection (2)

Member's explanatory statement

This subsection gives power to Ministers as to what the required information is to be.

Clause 12

BARONESS HAYMAN OF ULLOCK

Clause 12, page 8, line 28, at end insert –

- “(1A) The welfare advisory body must carry out an assessment of the likely impact of the precision bred traits on the health and welfare of the relevant animal and its qualifying progeny.
- (1B) In carrying out an assessment under subsection (1A) the welfare advisory body must consider (among other things) –
- (a) scientific expertise on the health and welfare of animals with similar traits (whether or not resulting from the application of modern biotechnology) to those of the animal in respect of which an application for a precision bred animal marketing authorisation has been made,
 - (b) the animal welfare declaration provided by the notifier under section 11(3), and
 - (c) the assessment, explanation and information provided under section 11(4).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment clarifies that, when considering an application for a precision bred animal marketing authorisation which has been referred by the Secretary of State, the welfare advisory body must carry out its own assessment of the risks to the health and welfare of the animal and its progeny, rather than relying on information submitted by the applicant.

BARONESS HAYMAN OF ULLOCK

Clause 12, page 8, line 40, at end insert –

- “(2A) Where the purpose of the application of a precision bred trait includes –
- (a) accelerating an animal’s growth,
 - (b) increasing an animal’s yield, or
 - (c) otherwise increasing an animal’s productivity,
- the requirement in subsection (2B) applies.
- (2B) Where the welfare advisory body is carrying out an assessment under subsection (1A) and has grounds to believe one or more of the purposes in subsection (2A) applies, the report must, in addition to the assessment outlined in subsection (1A), include a determination of –
- (a) whether animals or their progeny with similar traits (whether or not resulting from the application of modern biotechnology) are known to have experienced pain, suffering or lasting harm as a result of the introduction of that trait, and
 - (b) whether the application of a similar, precision bred trait to an animal and its qualifying progeny is likely to result in pain, suffering or lasting harm.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the welfare advisory body, where the application of a precision bred trait to an animal is intended to accelerate its growth or increase its yield, to consider welfare issues experienced by animals with similar traits, and determine whether the application of a precision bred trait is likely to result in pain, suffering or lasting harm.

BARONESS HAYMAN OF ULLOCK

Clause 12, page 9, line 5, at end insert –

- “(5A) In carrying out an assessment under subsection (1A), the welfare advisory body must consider whether the precision bred traits may facilitate the keeping of the relevant animal or its qualifying progeny in conditions that may have an adverse effect on animal welfare.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe whether the welfare advisory body will consider potential unintended consequences of a precision bred trait being applied to an animal. If a trait allows an animal to be kept at a higher density, for example, there could be a consequential impact on its wellbeing.

Clause 17

LORD ROOKER

Clause 17, page 11, line 35, leave out “may” and insert “must”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to ensure the Secretary of State is required to make regulations in line with similar provision on risk assessments in section 108 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Clause 18

LORD ROOKER

Clause 18, page 12, line 26, leave out subsection (1)

Member's explanatory statement

This subsection allows Ministers to decide what information the register must contain.

Clause 25

LORD ROOKER

Clause 25, page 16, line 21, leave out subsection (1)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to probe what “adversely affected” means in relation to the health of the animal affected by a precision bred trait.

Clause 26

LORD ROOKER

Lord Rooker gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 26 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

The Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee has described Clauses 26 to 28 as skeleton Clauses and said that “the provision on the face of the Bill is so insubstantial that the real operation of Part 3 would be entirely by the regulations made under it”.

Clause 27

LORD ROOKER

Lord Rooker gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 27 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

The Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee has described Clauses 26 to 28 as skeleton Clauses and said that “the provision on the face of the Bill is so insubstantial that the real operation of Part 3 would be entirely by the regulations made under it”.

Clause 28

LORD ROOKER

Lord Rooker gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 28 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

The Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee has described Clauses 26 to 28 as skeleton Clauses and said that “the provision on the face of the Bill is so insubstantial that the real operation of Part 3 would be entirely by the regulations made under it”.

Clause 29

LORD ROOKER

Lord Rooker gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 29 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

The Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee has described Clauses 26 to 28 as skeleton Clauses and said that “the provision on the face of the Bill is so insubstantial that the real operation of Part 3 would be entirely by the regulations made under it”.

Clause 32

LORD ROOKER

Clause 32, page 21, line 26, leave out “may” and insert “must”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to ensure the Secretary of State is required to make regulations for enforcement measures.

LORD ROOKER

Clause 32, page 21, line 33, leave out “may” and insert “must”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is to ensure the Secretary of State is required to make regulations for enforcement measures.

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