

Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill

AMENDMENT
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

After Clause 176

LORD THOMAS OF GRESFORD

Insert the following new Clause—

“Strategic lawsuits against public participation

- (1) It is an offence for a person or entity without reasonable excuse to threaten civil litigation against another person or entity with intent to suppress the publication of any information likely to be relevant to the investigation of an economic crime.
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable—
 - (a) on summary conviction in England and Wales, to a fine;
 - (b) on summary conviction in Scotland or Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum;
 - (c) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or a fine (or both).”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment introduces a new criminal offence to deal with groundless threats in pursuance of SLAPPS in order to suppress investigations into economic crimes.

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16 February 2023
