

# Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill

AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

**Clause 3**

LORD COLLINS OF HIGHBURY

Clause 3, page 2, line 40, at end insert –

- “(4A) Section 1 does not apply to a decision which has been made in accordance with a Statement of Policy Relating to Human Rights.
- (4B) A “Statement of Policy Relating to Human Rights” –
- (a) is a public authority’s policy criteria relating to disinvestment in cases concerning contravention of human rights, and
  - (b) must be applied consistently by the public authority to all foreign countries.
- (4C) Within 60 days of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must publish, and lay before Parliament, guidance on the form, content and application of a Statement for the purposes of this section.
- (4D) Public authorities must have regard to the guidance referenced in subsection (4C) when devising a Statement for the purposes of this section.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would exempt public bodies from the prohibition in section 1 where the decision has been made in accordance with a Statement of Policy Relating to Human Rights. A Statement may not single out individual nations – the policy would have to be applied consistently, and in accordance with guidance published by the Secretary of State.*

LORD WARNER

Clause 3, page 3, line 7, leave out subsection (7)

**Clause 4**

LORD COLLINS OF HIGHBURY

*Lord Collins of Highbury gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.*

**After Clause 15**

LORD WARNER

After Clause 15, insert the following new Clause—

**“Review of this Act’s compliance with the Human Rights Act 1998**

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within 6 months of the passing of this Act, lay before Parliament a review of the Act’s compliance with the obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998.
- (2) The review under subsection (1) must, in particular, assess the Act’s interaction with the right to freedom of expression under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights.”

***Member’s explanatory statement***

*This amendment aims to probe to extent to which the Bill is compliant with Article 10 of the ECHR and, if not, whether it is then non-compliant with section 6 of the Human Rights Act 1998.*

**Clause 17**

LORD WARNER

Clause 17, page 11, line 3, leave out subsection (3) and insert—

- “(3A) This section comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3B) The rest of this Act may not come into force until before 31 January 2025 or until the Secretary of State has laid a statement before Parliament explaining how the Act furthers the foreign policy objectives of the United Kingdom in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Gaza.”



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*22 February 2024*

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