

House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

*Tabled up to and including
12 December 2024*

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Clause 1

LORD LUCAS

★ Leave out Clause 1 and insert the following new Clause –

“By-elections and life peerages for hereditary peer vacancies

- (1) Section 2 of the House of Lords Act 1999 (exception to exclusion of hereditary peers from membership of House of Lords) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (2), after “time” insert “no more than”.
- (3) For subsection (4), substitute –
 - “(4) In any case where a person excepted from section 1 dies or ceases to be a member of the House of Lords, an election must be held in which anyone on the register of electors anywhere in the United Kingdom may stand, and in which all members of the House of Lords may vote.
 - (4A) Any person selected as a result of an election held under subsection (4) must be recommended by the Prime Minister for a life peerage.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to probe whether hereditary peer vacancies could be filled by members of the public who would be elected by members of the House and recommended to the Prime Minister for a life peerage.

After Clause 1

LORD NEWBY
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty to take forward proposals for democratic mandate for House of Lords

- (1) It is the duty of the Secretary of State to take forward proposals to secure a democratic mandate for the House of Lords.
- (2) In pursuance of the duty under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must carry out the steps set out in subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6).
- (3) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a consultation paper on methods for introducing directly elected members in the House of Lords.
- (4) After laying the consultation paper under subsection (3), the Secretary of State must seek the views on the matters covered by that paper of –
 - (a) each party and group in the House of Lords,
 - (b) each political party represented in the House of Commons,
 - (c) the Scottish Government,
 - (d) the Welsh Government,
 - (e) the Northern Ireland Executive,
 - (f) local authorities in the United Kingdom,
 - (g) representative organisations for local authorities in the United Kingdom, and
 - (h) such other persons and bodies as the Secretary of State considers appropriate.
- (5) Within 16 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a report on responses to the consultation.
- (6) Within 18 months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals on the matter mentioned in subsection (3).”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause imposes a duty on Ministers to take forward proposals to secure a democratic mandate for the House of Lords through introduction of directly elected members.

LORD NEWBY
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

- ★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –
- “Life peerages not to be conferred against recommendation of the House of Lords Appointments Commission**
- (1) The Life Peerages Act 1958 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 1 (power to confer life peerages), after subsection (1) insert –
- “(1A) The power under subsection (1) may not be exercised in relation to a person if the House of Lords Appointments Commission has written to the Prime Minister to recommend that a peerage should not be conferred on that person.””

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would prevent a life peerage being conferred on a person if the House of Lords Appointments Commission has recommended against the appointment.

LORD HARRIES OF PENTREGARTH

- ★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –
- “15 year terms for life peers**
- (1) A member of the House of Lords who has sat in the House by virtue of a life peerage for 15 years or more ceases to be a member of the House of Lords at the end of that Session of Parliament, subject to subsection (2).
- (2) A member of the House of Lords who has sat in the House by virtue of a life peerage for 15 years or more may apply to the House of Lords Appointments Commission for reappointment for a further five or more years up to a maximum of 15 years, but no member may sit in the House of Lords by virtue of a life peerage for more than 30 years in total.”

Clause 4

LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM

- ★ Clause 4, page 2, line 16, after “Parliament”, insert “after the Session”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of the amendment is to postpone implementation of the Act.

LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM

- ★ Clause 4, page 2, line 19, leave out “that Session” and insert “the Session following the Session in which this Act is passed”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of the amendment is to postpone implementation of the Act.

Clause 5

LORD NEWBY
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

- ★ Clause 5, page 2, line 21, after “Peers” insert “and Proposals for a Democratic Mandate”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would change the short title of the Bill and is consequential on Lord Newby's new Clause after Clause 1 “Duty to take forward proposals for democratic mandate for House of Lords”.

LORD NEWBY
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

- ★ Clause 5, page 2, line 21, after “Peers” insert “and Appointments”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would change the short title of the Bill and is consequential on Lord Newby's new Clause after Clause 1 “Life peerages not to be conferred against recommendation of the House of Lords Appointments Commission.”

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