Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill

AMENDMENTS

TO BE MOVED

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

[Supplementary to the Second Marshalled List]

Amendment No.

After Clause 4

LORD BLUNKETT

69AA★ After Clause 4, insert the following new Clause –

"Consultation on registration and regulation of youth workers etc

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, consult on—
 - (a) the establishment as a registered profession of those that work with young people in relation to educational and recreational activities under section 507B of the Education Act 1996 and are conducting a regulated activity under section 6 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 either in a professional or voluntary capacity;
 - (b) the appointment of a regulator for such persons.
- (2) Within six months of the completion of a consultation held under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must publish a report outlining the findings and conclusions of the consultation.
- (3) Where a consultation held under this section concludes, the Secretary of State may make provision for—
 - (a) the establishment as a registered profession under the Professional Qualifications Act 2022 of such professions that the consultation held under this section concludes;
 - (b) the appointment of a regulator for such persons.
- (4) A regulator may have responsibility for
 - (a) establishing and maintaining a register of, and
 - (b) establishing and overseeing accreditation of, such persons that the consultation held under this section concludes.
- (5) Where a regulator has established accreditation to be used by registered persons, no person may —

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- (a) claim or purport to be, or
- (b) use any titles, logos or other designations reserved for, registered or accredited persons if they are not so registered or accredited."

Clause 21

THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

146B★ Clause 21, page 39, line 21, at end insert –

(e) to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise the disadvantages suffered by looked-after children and relevant young persons."

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment seeks to expand and strengthen Clause 21 by replacing the light-touch duty to be "alert to" their needs with a stronger requirement for public bodies to have "due regard" to eliminating disadvantage and to take reasonable steps to mitigate any harmful effects of their policies. The amendment intends to create a legally enforceable, lifelong safeguard for anyone who has ever been in care.

THE LORD BISHOP OF MANCHESTER

147A★ Clause 21, page 39, line 27, at end insert –

"(2A) A relevant authority exercising the duty under subsection (1) shall take reasonable steps to avoid, reduce or otherwise mitigate any adverse impact of its policies and practices on looked-after children and relevant young persons."

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment seeks to expand and strengthen Clause 21 by replacing the light-touch duty to be "alert to" their needs with a stronger requirement for public bodies to have "due regard" to eliminating disadvantage and to take reasonable steps to mitigate any harmful effects of their policies. The amendment intends to create a legally enforceable, lifelong safeguard for anyone who has ever been in care.

After Clause 26

BARONESS PENN

183CA★ After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

"Guidance on the use of screens and technology in early years settings

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, update the early years foundation stage statutory framework for children aged 0-5 in early years settings to include guidance on the appropriate and safe use of screens and technology in early years settings.
- (2) The guidance must include recommendations concerning—

- (a) limits for screen time for children (specific to their age) in early years settings;
- (b) safeguarding policies for the use of personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
- any benefits, harms or risk of harm associated with the exposure of children of differing ages to personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
- (d) any benefits, harms or risk of harms associated specifically with the exposure of children with special educational needs or disabilities to personal devices and other screens in early years settings;
- (e) any other positive or negative effects associated with the use or presence of personal devices for early years development and play;
- (f) the balancing of screen-based and non-digital activities for children in early years settings."

BARONESS PENN

183CB★ After Clause 26, insert the following new Clause –

"Public information campaign on the use of screens and technology for children aged 0-5

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within twelve months of the day on which this Act is passed, establish a public information campaign concerning the impact of screen time on the wellbeing of children aged 0-5.
- (2) The campaign must include, but is not limited to—
 - (a) guidance on the impact of screens on whole child health, both immediate and long term, including
 - (i) cognitive,
 - (ii) social,
 - (iii) eyesight,
 - (iv) neurodevelopmental,
 - (v) speech, and
 - (vi) language issues.
 - (b) clear recommended boundaries on appropriate screen time limits for children, including times and places that should be screen-free, such as mealtimes and bedtimes;
 - (c) the impact of carers' usage of personal devices and screens on child development;
 - (d) guidance on the importance of screen-free time, outside time and child and parent interaction with examples of alternatives, such as—
 - (i) bedtime stories,
 - (ii) helping with chores, and
 - (iii) interacting with the environment;

(e) guidance that digital "educational" apps are not necessary for healthy development, and the risks of screen usage for young children still apply when using these apps."

After Clause 62

LORD STOREY

502A★ After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

"Review: number of teachers unable to stand in local elections

With six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must publish a review of the anticipated impact of this Act on the number of teachers in maintained schools who will, because of their employment, be unable to stand for election to local education authorities."

BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE

502B★ After Clause 62, insert the following new Clause –

"Right to access to nature

- (1) The Secretary of State shall have a duty to promote school pupils' access to nature, with the aim of ensuring that each pupil spends an average of one hour per week as a minimum during term time in a natural setting during class time.
- (2) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and every 12 months thereafter, lay before Parliament a report on progress on achieving this goal.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, "natural environment" has the same meaning as in section 44 of the Environment Act 2021."

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment aims to improve pupils' exposure to and knowledge of natural environments.

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