

House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS ON REPORT

*Tabled up to and including
17 June 2025*

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

After Clause 1

LORD BLENCATHRA

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

“Legislating for changes to the composition of the House of Lords

- (1) Where a resolution of the House of Lords establishes or changes—
 - (a) the age at which peers must retire,
 - (b) a minimum attendance requirement, or
 - (c) a participation requirement,a relevant Minister must, within 12 months, take the action set out in subsection (2).
- (2) Where a resolution is passed by the House of Lords in accordance with subsection (1) (a “relevant resolution”), the Secretary of State must, by regulations made by statutory instrument, amend the following Acts, as appropriate, in order to translate the relevant resolution into statute—
 - (a) this Act;
 - (b) the Life Peerages Act 1958;
 - (c) the House of Lords Reform Act 2014.
- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to establish changes regarding the composition of the House in law, while allowing the House flexibility to change them.

LORD NEWBY
LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE
BARONESS SMITH OF LLANFAES
LORD STRATHCLYDE

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,
 - (h) the general public, which may include citizens’ assemblies, and
 - (j) 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.

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

★

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“House of Lords Appointments Commission: recommendations for life peerages

In the Life Peerages Act 1958, after section 1(1) (power to confer life peerages) insert –

- “(1A) No recommendation may be made to His Majesty to confer a life peerage except by the House of Lords Appointments Commission.
- (1B) No such recommendation may be made by that Commission unless the Commission is satisfied that the person to be recommended –
 - (a) is a fit and proper person to sit and vote in the House of Lords and will participate appropriately in its business, and
 - (b) is willing to swear an oath committing that for all things that are moved, treated and debated in the House of Lords, they will faithfully and truly declare their mind and opinion, according to their heart and conscience.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that life peerages can only be conferred by the King on the advice of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (not of the Prime Minister) and that the person recommended (1) is a fit and proper person to be a member of the House, (2) will participate appropriately in the House's business and (3) will be willing to swear an oath similar to that avowed by Privy Councillors.

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Life peerages not to be conferred against recommendation of the House of Lords Appointments Commission (2)

In the Life Peerages Act 1958, after section 1(1) (power to confer life peerages) 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.””

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Term limits and retirement age

- (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.
- (2) A member of the House of Lords who reaches the age of 85 during a Session of Parliament ceases to be a member of the House of Lords at the end of that Session.”

Clause 4

VISCOUNT HAILSHAM

★ Clause 4, page 2, line 16, leave out from “force” to end of line 17 and insert “at the end of the Session of Parliament during which the Secretary of State has published a draft bill with proposals for stage two of House of Lords reform.

- (3A) A “draft bill with proposals for stage two of House of Lords Reform” is a draft bill which includes proposals which —
- (a) introduce a mandatory retirement age for members of the House of Lords;
 - (b) introduce term limits of 15 years for life peers;
 - (c) Change the process of appointment of members of the House of Lords, so as to limit the discretion of the Prime Minister and of the leaders of any political party, to secure the appointment of persons to sit and vote in the House of Lords;
 - (d) introduce minimum participation requirements for continued membership of the House of Lords;
 - (e) reduce the number of members entitled to sit and vote in the House of Lords to fewer than 600 by the time this Parliament is dissolved.”

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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