

House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS ON REPORT

*Tabled up to and including
25 June 2025*

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Clause 1

LORD ROBERTS OF BELGRAVIA
LORD HOWARD OF RISING
LORD MOORE OF ETCHINGHAM
LORD BELLINGHAM

Clause 1, page 1, line 1, at end insert –

“(A1) In section 1 of the House of Lords Act 1999 (exclusion of hereditary peers), at end insert “, except for the Earl Marshal and the Lord Great Chamberlain”.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to retain the Earl Marshal and the Lord Great Chamberlain as members of the House of Lords with the right to sit and vote.

LORD PARKINSON OF WHITLEY BAY
BARONESS LAING OF ELDERSLIE
LORD VERDIRAME
LORD BELLINGHAM

Leave out Clause 1 and insert the following new Clause –

“Exclusion of remaining hereditary peers

- (1) Section 2 of the House of Lords Act 1999 (exception from section 1) is amended as follows.
- (2) For subsection (2) substitute –
 - “(2) No more than 87 people at any one time shall be excepted from section 1.”

(3) For subsection (4) substitute –

“(4) Any vacancy resulting from the death, retirement, resignation or expulsion of an excepted person under subsection (2) after the day on which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 comes into force is not to be filled by further exception.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would amend the House of Lords Act 1999 to abolish the system of by-elections for hereditary peers. This would prevent any new hereditary peers from joining the House, while allowing those who are presently serving in the House to remain. It follows the proposals of the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) (Abolition of By-Elections) Bill.

LORD STRATHCLYDE

Leave out Clause 1 and insert the following new Clause –

“Election of temporal members of the House of Lords

- (1) In section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages) –
 - (a) in subsection (2)(a) omit “; and”;
 - (b) omit subsection (2)(b).
- (2) Within three months of the day on which this Act comes into force, 600 peers who were in receipt of a writ to sit in the Parliament in which this Act is passed shall be identified to sit in the House of Lords by elections conducted in accordance with standing orders of the House of Lords.
- (3) Similar elections to choose 600 members of the House of Lords shall be held on the first meeting of each new Parliament and the eligibility of any such election shall be –
 - (a) any peer who is eligible for election under subsection (2), and
 - (b) any peer who has received a writ of summons for Parliament since the day on which this Act comes into effect.
- (4) Any peer not elected in the elections specified in subsections (2) and (3) shall be excluded from the House of Lords for the rest of that Parliament, although they may be included in accordance with subsection (5) and are eligible to stand for election to sit in subsequent Parliaments if in receipt of a writ of summons for that Parliament.
- (5) In the event of the death, exclusion or retirement of any peer elected to sit in elections specified in subsections (2) and (3), their place will be filled for the rest of that Parliament by the peer who was not elected who received the highest number of votes in any list or lists of candidates for election produced by the Clerk of the Parliaments for the purpose of these elections.
- (6) The standing orders referred to in subsection (2) shall provide for –
 - (a) 480 members of political parties, allocated by the average share of total votes cast for each party for membership of the House of Commons in the previous three general elections, chosen among party groups, and

- (b) 120 members who are not a member of any political party (“crossbench and non-affiliated members”), to be elected by the whole House.
- (7) Should the leader of any party indicate that their party did not wish to have members in the House of Lords then the vote share of that party shall not count in the allocation provided for under subsection (6)(a).
- (8) Should any party have a share of the total votes specified in subsection (6)(a) which is greater than the current number of members of the House affiliated to that party, then new peerages may be created under the Life Peerages Act 1958 to provide for those places to be filled.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to reduce the size of the House of Lords to 600 peers through elections conducted in accordance with standing orders that would provide for 480 members of political parties, chosen among party groups, and 120 crossbench and non-affiliated members, to be elected by the whole House.

After Clause 1

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
VISCOUNT HAILSHAM
VISCOUNT THURSO

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 –

“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.”

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON
BARONESS ALTMANN
BARONESS PARMINTER
LORD STRATHCLYDE

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“Further reform of the composition of the House of Lords

Within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft Bill containing legislative proposals for further reform of the composition of the House of Lords.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Government to lay before Parliament a further bill to reform the House of Lords after the removal of hereditary peers.

BARONESS GOLDIE
LORD TRUE
BARONESS FINN
LORD HUNT OF WIRRAL

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Life peerages for hereditary peers

- (1) Within three months of the passing of this Act, the Leader of the House of Lords, having consulted with the Convenor of the Crossbench Peers and the Leaders of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties, must submit to the Prime Minister a list of those excepted hereditary Peers abolished under this Act who wish to continue to serve as members of the House of Lords.
- (2) Within three months of receiving the list, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that all excepted hereditary Peers on it be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958.”

LORD KEEN OF ELIE
LORD WOLFSON OF TREDEGAR
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Lord Chancellor

In the case of any person who holds the office of Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain who is not currently a member of the House of Lords, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that the person be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that the Lord Chancellor is a member of the House of Lords, as was the case for over two centuries leading up to the passage of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005.

LORD LUCAS

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“No majority for one party in the House of Lords

After section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958, insert —

“1A No majority for one party in the House of Lords

- (1) An appointment may not be made to the House of Lords if it would have the effect of taking the total number of peers from parties forming part of the Government to more than 40% of the total members of that House.
- (2) If at any time the number of peers from parties forming part of the Government exceeds 40% of the total members of the House of Lords, no

appointments to the parties forming part of the Government may be made until that number is reduced below 40% either by resignation, new appointments or leave of absence.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to limit the unfettered power of Prime Ministers to make appointments to the House of Lords.

LORD BLENCATHRA

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“Removal of peers with a criminal conviction

Any peer convicted of a criminal offence on indictment ceases to be a member of the House of Lords within seven days of the conviction, or the loss of appeal if the peer appeals the conviction.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment intends to ensure that peers who have committed a serious offence are removed from the House, using an indictable offence to provide a clear threshold.

LORD TRUE

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause –

“Unsalariated Ministers

No one who is a Minister of the Crown shall be eligible for membership of the House of Lords unless they are in receipt of, or have been offered, a salary under the Ministerial and Other Salaries Act 1975.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would mean that unpaid Ministers would not be eligible for membership of the House, effectively requiring all Lords Ministers to be paid.

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.

BARONESS MOBARIK
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB
LORD BELLINGHAM

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Life peerages to be nominated by party groups

Within three months of this Act coming into force, the Prime Minister must recommend to His Majesty the King that the following be granted a life peerage under section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 —

- (a) 20 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Crossbench Group in the House of Lords,
- (b) 30 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Conservative Party,
- (c) 3 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Labour Party, and
- (d) 3 excepted hereditary peers proposed by the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Prime Minister to recommend life peerages for a proportion of hereditary peers, nominated by the leaders of their respective groups.

LORD ASHTON OF HYDE
LORD KEEN OF ELIE
LORD GARNIER

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Retirement from the House of Lords

In section 1(2)(b) of the House of Lords Reform Act 2014, after “peer” insert “or a person holding a lasting power of attorney for that peer”.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment allows for a person holding a lasting power of attorney for a peer to sign on their behalf when notifying the Clerk of the Parliaments of the peer's retirement.

LORD TRUE
BARONESS FINN
LORD LUCAS

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

“Rights of life peers to sit in the House of Lords

- (1) Section 1 of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages) is amended as follows.
- (2) At the end of subsection (1) insert “, and, as the case may be, the incidents specified in subsection (2A) of this section”.
- (3) Omit from “and” in subsection (2)(a) to the end of subsection (2)(b).
- (4) After subsection (2), insert—
 - “(2A) A peerage conferred under this section may, if the letters patent so state, during the life of the person on whom it is conferred, entitle him, subject to subsection (4) of this section, to receive writs of summons to attend the House of Lords and sit and vote therein accordingly, and shall expire on his death.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would make it possible to create a life peerage without a seat in parliament under the Life Peerages Act 1958.

THE EARL OF KINNOULL

After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause—

“Non-attendance

In section 2 of the House of Lords Reform Act 2014 (non-attendance)—

- (a) in subsection (1), after the second “Lords”, insert “for 10% or more of sitting days”;
- (b) in subsection (2), after “Lords”, insert “for 10% or more of sitting days”;
- (c) in subsection (2)(a), leave out “at no time during the Session attended the House” and insert “attended the House for fewer than 10% of sitting days during the Session”.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment will ensure that Peers would be required to sit at a minimum for more than 10% of the House's sitting days in order to maintain their membership of this House.

THE EARL OF DEVON

★ 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) During the period of five years following the day on which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 comes into force, the House of Lords Appointments Commission may recommend to His Majesty that up to 20 life peerages be conferred on persons who intend to sit in the House of Lords as independent, unaffiliated or non-party Peers.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to encourage the use of the House of Lords Appointments Commission as the means by which members of the Cross Benches are appointed following the removal of Hereditary Peers.

THE EARL OF DEVON

★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Retirement

In section 1(2)(b) of the Life Peerages Act 1958 (power to confer life peerages), after “accordingly”, insert “until the age of 80, or the tenth anniversary of their introduction to the House, whichever is the later”.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment will ensure that Peers would be required to retire either at the age of 80 years, or after 10 years of membership, whichever is later. This will allow members that join after the age of 70 to sit for at least a decade.

VISCOUNT THURSO

★ After Clause 1, insert the following new Clause —

“Expiry of right to receive writ of summons

(1) The Life Peerages Act 1958 is amended as follows.

(2) In section 1(2)(b) omit “subsection (4)” and insert “subsections (4) and (5).”

(3) After subsection (4) insert —

“(5) For peerages granted after the end of the Parliament in which the House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Act 2025 is passed, the right to receive a writ of summons expires on the twentieth anniversary of the introduction of the person holding the peerage into the House of Lords.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment introduced a term limit for peerages created after the end of this Parliament by limiting the right to receive a writ of summons to 20 years. It has no effect on existing peerages.

Clause 2

LORD WOLFSON OF TREDEGAR
LORD MOYNIHAN
LORD KEEN OF ELIE

Clause 2, page 1, line 8, at end insert –

- “(3) Any peerage claim is to be made to His Majesty in Council.
- (4) A claim under this section must be made in accordance with such rules as His Majesty may by Order in Council prescribe.
- (5) Section 3 of the Judicial Committee Act 1833 (reference to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of appeals to His Majesty in Council) applies to a claim under this section as it applies to an appeal to His Majesty in Council from a court.
- (6) The Judicial Committee may require an applicant to give such security for the costs of the proceedings as the Judicial Committee may direct.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment clarifies the future of claims to a hereditary peerage as it was originally drafted by the Office of the Parliamentary Counsel for the House of Lords Reform Bill 2012.

THE EARL OF DEVON

★

Clause 2, page 1, line 8, at end insert –

- “(3) Where claims to hereditary peerages are determined by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (pursuant to section 4 of the Judicial Committee Act 1833), the Committee must have regard to principles of gender equality.”

Member's explanatory statement

In the light of the fact that hereditary peerages often pass to eldest sons, this amendment seeks to ensure that the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, where exercising any jurisdiction to determine peerage claims, does so in a manner that is not gender discriminatory to the extent that it is able.

After Clause 2

THE EARL OF DUNDEE

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause —

“Review: impact on the effectiveness of the House of Lords

Within 12 months of the day on which this Act coming into force, the Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament the report of a review detailing the effect of this Act on the ability of the House of Lords to scrutinise legislation and hold the Government to account.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to require a review of the impact of this Act on the ability of the House of Lords to scrutinise legislation and hold the Government to account.

THE EARL OF DEVON

★

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause —

“Report: principles of gender equality

- (1) The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act comes into force, undertake a consultation on how principles of gender equality should be applied when determining hereditary peerage claims which were formerly determined by the House of Lords.
- (2) The Secretary of State must publish a report following the conclusion of the consultation which must address —
 - (a) the expectations of existing heirs;
 - (b) heirs born to unmarried parents;
 - (c) families with adopted children.”

Member's explanatory statement

In the light of the fact that hereditary peerages often pass to eldest sons, this amendment requires that the Secretary of State must, within six months of the commencement of this Act, consult on how principles of gender equality should be applied when determining hereditary peerage claims.

THE EARL OF DEVON

★

After Clause 2, insert the following new Clause —

“Review of and consultation on appropriateness of name of House

The Secretary of State must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, lay before Parliament a report based on a public consultation on the implications of the provisions in this Act for the appropriateness of the name of the House of Lords.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment invites consideration of the suitability of the name "House of Lords" after the removal of the Hereditary Peers from Parliament.

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 the Parliament in which the draft bill was published was 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".

After Title

LORD STRATHCLYDE

After the long title, insert the following new Preamble –

“Whereas it is intended to substitute for the House of Lords as it at present exists a Second Chamber constituted on a popular instead of hereditary basis, but such substitution cannot be immediately brought into operation:”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is copied from the preamble to the 1911 Parliament Act to highlight that Labour's plans for “an alternative second chamber that is more representative of the regions and nations” constitutes the same ambition for a popular basis for the House of Lords and that this Bill, like the 1911 Act, is another holding position because the intended substitution still “cannot be immediately brought into operation”.

House of Lords (Hereditary Peers) Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS ON REPORT

*Tabled up to and including
25 June 2025*

25 June 2025

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS