

Overseas Operations (Service Personnel and Veterans) Bill

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

After Clause 6

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Insert the following new Clause –

“Compliance with the Belfast Agreement 1998

Nothing in this Part is to be construed in any manner that is non-compliant with the Belfast Agreement 1998.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment, and the amendments to page 8, line 12 and page 26, line 16 in the name of Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick, ensure that the bill cannot be interpreted in a way that undermines the Belfast Agreement 1998’s requirement for the Government to complete incorporation into Northern Ireland law of the European Convention on Human Rights, with direct access to the courts, and remedies for breach of the Convention.

Clause 11

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Page 8, line 12, at end insert –

“(4B) The rule referred to in section 7A is not to be construed in any manner that is non-compliant with the Belfast Agreement 1998.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment, and the amendments after Clause 6 and to page 26, line 16 in the name of Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick, ensure that the bill cannot be interpreted in a way that undermines the Belfast Agreement 1998’s requirement for the Government to complete incorporation into Northern Ireland law of the European Convention on Human Rights, with direct access to the courts, and remedies for breach of the Convention.

After Clause 12

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Insert the following new Clause—

“Exceptions

Nothing in this Act may be construed in any manner that is non-compliant with the UK’s international obligations, including, but not limited to, the European Convention on Human Rights and the Belfast Agreement 1998.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that the bill cannot be interpreted in a way that undermines the UK’s commitments under international law, including the European Convention on Human Rights. In doing so, it strengthens the Belfast Agreement 1998’s requirement of incorporation of the Convention into Northern Ireland law.

Schedule 4

BARONESS RITCHIE OF DOWNPATRICK
BARONESS JONES OF MOULSECOOMB

Page 26, line 16, at end insert—

“(8) After paragraph (9) insert—

“(10) Nothing in this Article is to be construed in any manner that is non-compliant with the text of the Belfast Agreement 1998.””

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment, and the amendments after Clause 6 and to page 8, line 12 in the name of Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick ensure that the bill cannot be interpreted in a way that undermines the Belfast Agreement 1998’s requirement for the Government to complete incorporation into Northern Ireland law of the European Convention on Human Rights, with direct access to the courts, and remedies for breach of the Convention.

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2 March 2021
