

Telecommunications (Security) Bill

COMMONS REASONS

[The page and line numbers refer to HL Bill 15, the bill as first printed for the Lords]

After Clause 23

LORDS AMENDMENT 4

4 Insert the following new Clause—

“Network diversification

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish an annual report on the impact of progress of the diversification of the telecommunications supply chain on the security of public electronic communication networks and services.
- (2) The report required by subsection (1) must include an assessment of the effect on the security of those networks and services of—
 - (a) progress in network diversification set against the most recent telecommunications diversification strategy presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State;
 - (b) likely changes in ownership or trading position of existing market players;
 - (c) changes to the diversity of the supply chain for network equipment;
 - (d) new areas of market consolidation and diversification risk including the cloud computing sector;
 - (e) progress made in any aspects of the implementation of the diversification strategy not covered by paragraph (a);
 - (f) the public funding which is available for diversification.
- (3) The Secretary of State must lay the report before Parliament.
- (4) A Minister of the Crown must, not later than two months after the report has been laid before Parliament, move a motion in the House of Commons in relation to the report.”

COMMONS REASON

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment 4 for the following Reason —

- 4A** *Because the Commons consider it appropriate and sufficient for oversight and scrutiny of decisions made by the Secretary of State for DCMS in relation to telecommunications diversification to be conducted by the departmental select committee.*

LORDS AMENDMENT 5

- 5** Insert the following new Clause—

“Review of telecommunications companies based in foreign countries

- (1) The Communications Act 2003 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 105Z29 insert—

“105Z30 Review of telecommunications companies based in foreign countries

Where a Five Eyes partner bans the operation of a vendor of goods or services to public telecommunications providers in its country on security grounds, the Secretary of State must—

- (a) review the United Kingdom’s security arrangements with that company, and
- (b) decide whether to issue a designated vendor direction or take similar action with regard to the United Kingdom’s arrangements with that company.”

COMMONS REASON

The Commons disagree to Lords Amendment 5 for the following Reason—

- 5A** *Because the Commons consider it inappropriate to specify the steps to be taken by the Secretary of State where decisions in relation to telecommunications vendors are taken on national security grounds by other countries.*

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