

Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill [HL]

AMENDMENTS TO BE MOVED IN GRAND COMMITTEE

Clause 1

LORD MOYLAN
THE EARL OF CAITHNESS

Page 1, line 5, at end insert –

“(2A) At least 50% of the Committee must have recent commercial experience of –

- (a) animal husbandry,
- (b) livestock farming,
- (c) the management of abattoirs, or
- (d) the management of game and fishing stocks.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that the Committee benefits from the knowledge of those with direct understanding of the experience of animals.

LORD MOYLAN

Page 1, line 7, at end insert “but no member of the Committee may serve a term greater than three years, not to be renewed.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment helps to ensure that the Committee’s work benefits from fresh knowledge and new perspectives.

LORD MANCROFT

Page 1, line 7, at end insert –

“(4) No person may be appointed a member of the Committee if they –

- (a) are affiliated to an organisation promoting animal rights;
- (b) are a member of an organisation promoting animal rights;
- (c) have been employed by an organisation promoting animal rights; or
- (d) are employed by an organisation promoting animal rights.”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that any person who is a member of, is affiliated to, was employed by, or is employed by an organisation promoting animal rights cannot be appointed a member of the Animal Sentience Committee.

Clause 2

LORD HOWARD OF RISING

Page 1, line 9, leave out “or implemented”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment rules out policies which were established in the past, or are currently being lawfully implemented, and confines the Committee to consideration of policy in the making.

LORD MOYLAN

Page 1, line 9, after “implemented,” insert “other than a policy intended to advance the understanding of medical science,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment helps to ensure that the Committee's work will not impede the advancement of medical science.

LORD HOWARD OF RISING

Page 1, line 12, leave out “, or has had,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment rules out past policies.

Page 1, line 13, leave out “all”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes why "all" is added to intensify normal "due regard".

Page 1, line 13, leave out “adverse”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment allows the Committee to consider positive impact on welfare of other animals, for example in the control of vermin.

LORD MOYLAN

Page 1, line 14, leave out “as sentient beings”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment allows the Committee to take account of all aspects of animal welfare, without express regard to sentience.

Page 1, line 16, at end insert “, but such recommendations may only be made after the report referred to in subsection (1) has been published in an academic journal following peer review.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment aims to ensure the academic robustness of the Committee's work.

LORD HOWARD OF RISING

Page 1, line 17, leave out “or implementation”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment rules out policies which were established in the past, or are currently being lawfully implemented, and confines the Committee to consideration of policy in the making.

Page 1, line 18, leave out “all”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes why "all" is added to intensify normal "due regard".

Page 1, line 19, leave out “adverse”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment allows the Committee to consider positive impact on welfare of other animals, e.g. in control of vermin.

LORD MOYLAN

Page 1, line 19, leave out “as sentient beings”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is a consequence of the amendment to page 1, line 14 in the name of Lord Moylan.

LORD HOWARD OF RISING

Page 1, line 20, at end insert –

“(4A) The Committee may only produce a report under subsection (1) in relation to future policy under consideration.

(4B) The Committee's remit does not include any power to review or recommend –

(a) the repeal, or amendment, of any existing law;

(b) any change in the implementation of any existing law.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment attempts to limit the Committee's remit.

Page 2, line 3, leave out subsection (6)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes why this does not cover devolved administrations.

Clause 3

LORD MOYLAN

Page 2, line 21, at end insert “in the peer-reviewed academic journal referred to in section 2(3)”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment helps to ensure that the Secretary of State is responding to robust scientific findings.

LORD MANCROFT

Page 2, line 21, at end insert –

- “(3) The response must contain the views of other expert committees, such as the Animal Welfare Committee, and, where they disagree with the views of the Animal Sentience Committee, the Secretary of State must state which view the Government supports and the reasons for making that decision.”

Member's explanatory statement

The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that the Secretary of State's response to the Animal Sentience Committee report must include the views of other expert committees that have published a view, and, if in conflict, the Secretary of State must state which committee's view the Government agrees with and reasons why.

Clause 5

LORD MOYLAN

Page 2, line 32, leave out “vertebrate” and insert “mammal”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment limits the application of the Bill to mammals.

Page 2, line 32, at end insert “and fish”

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to establish the Government's view of the likely consequences of the Bill for fishing and angling.

Page 2, line 32, at end insert “and birds”

Member's explanatory statement

This probing amendment seeks to establish the Government's view of the likely consequences of the Bill for the shooting of birds for sport.

Page 2, line 34, leave out “invertebrates of any description” and insert “cephalopods and decapod crustaceans”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment limits the Secretary of State's power to designate invertebrate animals as sentient to the class of animals most likely to be qualify as such.

LORD MANCROFT

Page 2, line 35, at end insert “, provided that the Secretary of State lays a report before Parliament setting out the scientific basis for determining that the species concerned is sentient.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to publish the scientific evidence for determining that an invertebrate is sentient.

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29 June 2021
