

Dissolution and Calling of Parliament Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Tabled up to and including

20 January 2022

[Sheets HL Bill 51(a) to (e)]

Clause 2

LORD NORTON OF LOUTH

Page 1, line 6, after “Her Majesty’s” insert “personal”

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 1, line 9, at end insert “subject to subsection (1A).

- (1A) The Prime Minister may not request Her Majesty to exercise Her prerogative to dissolve Parliament if Parliament has been prorogued, unless Parliament is first recalled and the House of Commons agrees that the Prime Minister should request Her Majesty to exercise Her prerogative to dissolve Parliament.”

LORD JUDGE
BARONESS SMITH OF BASILDON
LORD NEWBY
LORD LANSLEY

Page 1, line 9, at end insert —

- “(1A) The powers referred to in subsection (1) must not be exercised unless the House of Commons passes a motion in the form set out in subsection (1B).
(1B) The form of motion for the purposes of subsection (1A) is “that this present Parliament will be dissolved.””

Clause 3

LORD NORTON OF LOUTH
LORD HOPE OF CRAIGHEAD
LORD ROOKER

Page 1, line 17, leave out “or purported exercise”

Clause 3 - continued

LORD NORTON OF LOOTH
 LORD HOPE OF CRAIGHEAD
 BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING
 LORD ROOKER

Page 1, line 19, leave out “or purported decision”

Page 1, line 20, leave out paragraph (c)

LORD BUTLER OF BROCKWELL
 LORD HOPE OF CRAIGHEAD
 LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

Clause 4

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 2, line 2, leave out “If it has not been dissolved earlier,”

Member’s explanatory statement

This is a probing amendment aimed at debating the expectation of how long a Parliament should be in normal circumstances.

LORD ROOKER

Page 2, line 3, leave out “fifth” and insert “fourth”

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 2, line 3, at end insert “, except that, when the first meeting of a Parliament took place between the first of November and the following first of March, that Parliament dissolves on the first of June during its fifth year.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This is a probing amendment intended to discuss the regularity of dissolution.

Clause 6

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE

Page 2, line 13, leave out subsection (3) and insert –

- “(3) This Act comes into force when a revised Dissolution Principles document has been laid before Parliament and –
 - (a) the revised Dissolution Principles document has been approved by a resolution of the House of Commons; and
 - (b) the House of Lords has debated a motion to take note of the revised Dissolution Principles document.

Clause 6 - continued

- (3A) The Dissolution Principles document under subsection (3) must be revised to refer to a “request” from the Prime Minister to the Sovereign to dissolve Parliament.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to implement a recommendation from the Joint Committee on the Fixed-term Parliaments Act to revise the Dissolution Principles document.

Page 2, line 13, leave out subsection (3) and insert –

- “(3) This Act comes into force when a Cabinet Manual revised in relation to the dissolution and calling of Parliament has been laid before Parliament.
- (3A) Prior to revising the Cabinet Manual the Minister must consult the relevant select committees in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.”

Member’s explanatory statement

The current Cabinet Manual references the Fixed-term Parliaments Act and has not been revised for 10 years. As a consequence of the repeal of that Act under this Bill, the Cabinet Manual should be revised in relation to the dissolution and calling of Parliament.