

Armed Forces Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

*Tabled up to and including
26 August 2026*

The amendments are listed in accordance with the following Instruction –

Clauses 1 to 3	Clauses 32 to 36
Schedule 1	Schedule 5
Clauses 4 and 5	Clauses 37 and 38
Schedule 2	Schedule 6
Clauses 6 and 7	Clauses 39 to 46
Schedule 3	Schedule 7
Clauses 8 to 31	Clauses 47 to 56
Schedule 4	Title

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Clause 2

BARONESS FRASER OF CRAIGMADDIE
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

Clause 2, page 2, line 13, at end insert “and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment and three others in the name of Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie seek to include Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel within the statutory provisions of the Armed Forces Covenant.

BARONESS FRASER OF CRAIGMADDIE
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

Clause 2, page 2, line 16, after “forces” insert “and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment and three others in the name of Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie seek to include Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel within the statutory provisions of the Armed Forces Covenant.

BARONESS FRASER OF CRAIGMADDIE
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

Clause 2, page 2, line 19, at end insert “and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment and three others in the name of Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie seek to include Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel within the statutory provisions of the Armed Forces Covenant.

BARONESS FRASER OF CRAIGMADDIE
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

Clause 2, page 2, line 21, after “forces” insert “and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment and three others in the name of Baroness Fraser of Craigmaddie seek to include Royal Fleet Auxiliary personnel within the statutory provisions of the Armed Forces Covenant.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 2, page 2, line 25, leave out “national authority” and insert “public authority”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 2, page 3, line 23, leave out ““national authority”” and insert ““public authority””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 2, page 3, line 25, leave out ““National authority”” and insert ““Public authority””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 2, page 3, line 32, at end insert —

- “(e) a publicly owned company;
- (f) a non-departmental public body;
- (g) any other person certain of whose functions are functions of a public nature.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 2, page 5, line 41, at end insert —

- ““non-departmental public body” means a body corporate that is not regarded as a servant or agent of the Crown but which carries out functions of a public nature;
- “publicly owned company” means a company that is —
 - (a) wholly owned by the Crown,
 - (b) wholly owned by the wider public sector, or
 - (c) wholly owned by the Crown and the wider public sector.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and the others to Clause 2 in the name of Baroness Goldie, would expand the application of the armed forces covenant to include all public bodies and authorities, particularly NDPBs and publicly owned companies.

Clause 3

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 3, page 7, line 26, at end insert —

- “(e) improving the satisfaction of service personnel and their families with the accommodation provided.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would create a new function for the Defence Housing Service of improving satisfaction for service personnel.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

★ Clause 3, page 8, line 24, at end insert —

“(ba) single living accommodation,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add single living accommodation to the definition of defence housing to ensure that defence housing standards apply to single living accommodation as well as service family accommodation.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

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

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe why the Government wishes to create the Defence Housing Service as a non-departmental public body.

After Clause 3

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

★ After Clause 3, insert the following new Clause —

“Single living accommodation standards

- (1) The Renters' Rights Act 2025 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 101 (The standard of MOD accommodation), after "service family accommodation", in each place it occurs, insert “and single living accommodation”.
- (3) In section 101(10), at end insert ““single living accommodation” means any building or part of a building which is provided for the use of a person subject to service law or a civilian subject to service discipline as living accommodation, but which is not service family accommodation.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause amends the Renters' Rights Act 2025 to ensure defence housing standards apply to single living accommodation.

Schedule 1

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Schedule 1, page 74, line 26, at end insert—

- “(4) The chief executive of the Defence Housing Service, once appointed, must report directly to the Minister of State for the Armed Forces, regarding the performance of the Defence Housing Service.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Chief Executive of the Defence Housing Service to report directly to the Minister of State for the Armed Forces regarding the performance of the Defence Housing Service.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Schedule 1, page 75, line 7, at end insert—

“Oversight board

- 9A (1) The Defence Housing Service is to have an oversight board.
- (2) The oversight board must consist of—
- (a) the Chief Executive,
 - (b) the Chair, and
 - (c) 12 members of His Majesty's Forces.
- (3) The members of His Majesty's Forces who are to be members of the oversight board must—
- (a) currently live, or have recently lived, in service family accommodation, and
 - (b) be selected in such a manner as specified in regulations made by the Defence Council.
- (4) The manner of selection that is prescribed in regulations under sub-paragraph (3)(b) must ensure that—
- (a) four members are currently serving in the army,
 - (b) four members are currently serving in the Royal Navy, and
 - (c) four members are currently serving in the Royal Air Force.
- (5) The function of the oversight board is to ensure that the views of service personnel living in service family accommodation are represented to the Defence Housing Service.
- (6) In this paragraph “service family accommodation” means accommodation primarily for use by members of His Majesty's Forces and their families.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to create an oversight board for the Defence Housing Service to ensure that the views of those who live in service family accommodation are taken into consideration.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 1 be the First Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe why the Government wishes to create the Defence Housing Service as a non-departmental public body.

Schedule 3

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 98, line 40, at end insert—

“PART 1A**SERVICE STALKING PROTECTION NOTICES**

- 1A In Part 3 of AFA 2006 (power of arrest, search and entry), after Chapter 1A (inserted by paragraph 1) insert—

“CHAPTER 1B**SERVICE STALKING PROTECTION NOTICES****74E Power to give a service stalking protection notice**

- (1) An authorised service police officer may give a service stalking protection notice to a person falling within subsection (2) (“P”) if the officer has reasonable grounds for believing that—
 - (a) P has carried out acts associated with stalking against another person, and
 - (b) it is necessary to give the notice to protect that other person from stalking, or the risk of stalking, carried out by P.
- (2) A person is within this subsection if the person is aged 18 or over and is—
 - (a) subject to service law, or
 - (b) a civilian subject to service discipline.
- (3) A “service stalking protection notice” is a notice prohibiting P from carrying out acts associated with stalking against the person for whose protection the notice is given.

- (4) A service stalking protection notice may provide that P –
 - (a) may not contact the person for whose protection the notice is given;
 - (b) may not come within a distance specified in the notice of any premises in which that person lives or any other specified premises.
- (5) If P lives in premises in which the person for whose protection the notice is given also lives, the notice may also contain provision –
 - (a) prohibiting P from evicting or excluding that person from the premises;
 - (b) prohibiting P from entering the premises;
 - (c) requiring P to leave the premises.
- (6) It does not matter where the acts associated with stalking referred to in subsection (1)(a) took place.
- (7) In this Chapter –
 - “acts” includes omissions;
 - “authorised”, in relation to a service police officer, means of or above the rank of naval lieutenant, military or marine captain or flight lieutenant;
 - “service police officer” means a member of a service police force.

74F Matters to be considered before giving a notice

- (1) Before giving a service stalking protection notice to a person (“P”), an authorised service police officer must, among other things, consider the following –
 - (a) the welfare of any person under the age of 18 whose interests the officer considers relevant to the giving of the notice;
 - (b) the opinion of the person for whose protection the notice would be given as to the giving of the notice;
 - (c) any representations made by P about the giving of the notice;
 - (d) in a case where the notice includes provision relating to premises lived in by the person for whose protection the notice would be given, the opinion of any relevant occupant as to the giving of the notice.
- (2) In subsection (1)(d) “relevant occupant” means a person other than P or the person for whose protection the notice would be given –
 - (a) who lives in the premises, and
 - (b) who is personally connected to the person for whose protection the notice would be given or, if P also lives in the premises, P.
- (3) The authorised service police officer must take reasonable steps to discover the opinions mentioned in subsection (1)(b) and (d).

- (4) It is not necessary for the person for whose protection a service stalking protection notice is given to consent to the giving of the notice.

74G Further requirements in relation to notices

- (1) A service stalking protection notice must be in writing.
- (2) A service stalking protection notice given to a person must state –
 - (a) the grounds on which it has been given,
 - (b) that if the person is reasonably suspected of being in breach of the notice, they may be arrested in accordance with section 67(2), (3), (4) or (5) by a person subject to service law,
 - (c) that an application for a service stalking protection order under section 236M will be heard within 48 hours of the time of giving the notice and that a notice of the hearing will be given to the person,
 - (d) that the notice continues in effect until that application has been determined or withdrawn, and
 - (e) the provision that may be included in a service stalking protection order.
- (3) The notice must be served on the person personally by a service police officer.
- (4) On serving the notice on the person, the service police officer must ask the person for an address at which the person may be given the notice of the hearing of the application for the service stalking protection order.
- (5) After serving the notice on the person, the service police officer must make reasonable efforts to inform the person's commanding officer of the giving of the notice.

74H Breach of notice

- (1) A person who is reasonably suspected of being in breach of a service stalking protection notice may be arrested in accordance with section 67(2), (3), (4) or (5) by a person subject to service law.
- (2) Section 67(6) applies in relation to the power of arrest conferred by subsection (1) as it applies in relation to the power of arrest conferred by section 67.
- (3) A person arrested by virtue of subsection (1) must be kept in service custody and brought before the Court Martial or the Service Civilian Court –
 - (a) before the end of the period of 24 hours beginning with the time of the arrest, or
 - (b) if earlier, at the hearing of the application for a service stalking protection order against the person.

- (4) In calculating when the period of 24 hours mentioned in subsection (3)(a) ends, the following days are to be disregarded –
 - (a) any Sunday,
 - (b) Christmas Day,
 - (c) Good Friday, and
 - (d) any day which is a bank holiday in England and Wales under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971.
- (5) If the person is brought before the court as mentioned in subsection (3)(a), the court may –
 - (a) give orders for the further detention of the person in service custody, or
 - (b) direct that the person is released from service custody.
- (6) The court may, when directing a person's release from service custody under subsection (5)(b), require the person to comply, before release or later, with any requirements that appear to the court to be necessary to secure that the person does not interfere with witnesses or otherwise obstruct the course of justice.
- (7) Where a person is given a service stalking protection notice under section 74E, a Provost Marshal must apply for a service stalking protection order in respect of the person.
- (8) The application must be heard by the court not later than 48 hours after the notice was given to the person, and subsections (3) to (7) of section 236D apply to the application as they apply to an application for a service domestic abuse protection order.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment creates a Service Stalking Protection Notice (SSPN) by mirroring the existing framework for Service Domestic Abuse Protection Notices, giving service police an equivalent power to provide immediate protection pending the determination or withdrawal of an application for a Service Stalking Protection Order.

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 113, line 12, at end insert –

“236TA Provision for specialist stalking training

- (1) The Secretary of State must ensure that specialist stalking training is provided to service police, and other personnel exercising functions under this Chapter.
- (2) The training must include provision on –
 - (a) identifying stalking,
 - (b) patterns of escalation and stalking-related risk, and
 - (c) the application for, implementation and enforcement of service stalking protection orders.

- (3) The training must be developed and delivered in collaboration with independent organisations with specialist expertise in stalking.
- (4) The Secretary of State must ensure that such training is in place before this Chapter comes into force and is subject to regular review.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires specialist stalking training to be in place before the service stalking protection order regime comes into force to support the effective implementation of the new measures.

BARONESS BRINTON

Schedule 3, page 113, line 12, at end insert—

“236TA Continuity of protection

- (1) The Secretary of State must make provision to ensure the continuity of protection afforded by a service stalking protection order where a person becomes, or ceases to be, subject to service law.
- (2) Provision made under subsection (1) must include—
 - (a) cooperation between service police, civilian police and relevant safeguarding authorities;
 - (b) the sharing of relevant information necessary for the effective operation and enforcement of service stalking protection orders;
 - (c) continuity of protection where responsibility for the enforcement of a service stalking protection order passes between service police and civilian police, including where individuals move between military and civilian jurisdictions;
 - (d) recognition of civilian stalking protection orders within military safeguarding and risk management processes.
- (3) The Secretary of State must publish and keep under review provisions made under this section.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to ensure continuity of protection where responsibility for a stalking case passes between military and civilian jurisdictions, reducing the risk of gaps in protection when individuals move between service and civilian systems.

Clause 16

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 36, line 22, leave out paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seek to remove the requirement that an offence must be a “serious offence” for a Provost Marshal to be the appropriate

authority and instead allow the Provost Marshal to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 36, line 28, leave out “serious” and insert “service”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seek to remove the requirement that an offence must be a “serious offence” for a Provost Marshal to be the appropriate authority and instead allow the Provost Marshal to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 36, line 31, leave out “for serious crime, and” and insert “who directs the investigating service police force.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that custody can be authorised by whichever service police force is investigating.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 36, leave out lines 32 and 33

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seeks to remove the requirement that an offence must be a 'serious offence' for a Provost Marshall to be the appropriate authority and instead allow the Provost Marshall to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 37, line 3, leave out “serious” and insert “service”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seek to remove the requirement that an offence must be a “serious offence” for a Provost Marshall to be the appropriate authority and instead allow the Provost Marshal to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 37, leave out lines 14 and 15

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seek to remove the requirement that an offence must be a “serious offence” for a Provost Marshal to be the appropriate authority and instead allow the Provost Marshal to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 37, leave out lines 21 to 33

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, and others in the name of the Lord Bishop of Norwich, seek to remove the requirement that an offence must be a “serious offence” for a Provost Marshal to be the appropriate authority and instead allow the Provost Marshal to be an appropriate authority in all service offences.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

Clause 16, page 38, line 1, leave out from “charge)” to end of line 5 and insert “in subsection (1), for “commanding officer of” substitute “appropriate authority in relation to”.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment seeks to ensure that service police can apply to a Judge Advocate for an extension of custody in all cases.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 16 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This is intended to probe the changes being made to pre-charge custody.

Clause 21

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

Clause 21, page 40, line 13, at end insert —

“(iii) a retired holder of such a rank.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add retired officers to those qualified for membership of the Court Martial.

After Clause 27

LORD THOMAS OF GRESFORD

After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause –

“Sentencing

In section 160 of Armed Forces Act 2006 (decisions of Court Martial: finding and sentence), for subsections (1) and (4) substitute –

- “(1) Any sentence passed by the Court Martial must be determined by the judge advocate alone, following consultation with the lay members.
- (2) The lay members are not entitled to vote on the sentence.””

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment provides for sentencing, subject to consultation with the lay members, by the judge advocate alone.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

After Clause 27, insert the following new Clause –

“Removal of presumption of suspended sentence orders

- (1) The Armed Forces Act 2006 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 200 (suspended sentence orders), omit subsections (1)(aa) and (1)(ba).
- (3) Omit section 200ZB.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment removes the presumption of a suspended sentence order from the service justice system.

After Clause 36

LORD COAKER

★

After Clause 36, insert the following new Clause –

“Service of notices by email

- (1) RFA 1996 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 32 (call out of persons who have entered into special arrangements) –
 - (a) after subsection (6) insert –
 - “(6A) A notice under this section may also be served on a person by email by sending it to –

- (a) the last known email address used by that person as a means for communicating with them, or
 - (b) if there is no such address, an email address by means of which there are reasonable grounds to believe that an email sent to that address will come to the attention of the person, and such a notice is, unless the contrary is proved, to be treated as having been received on the day following the day on which the email is sent.”;
 - (b) in subsection (7) after “subsection (6)” insert “or (6A)”.
- (3) In section 43 (call out of special members) –
- (a) after subsection (7) insert –
 - “(7A) A notice under this section may also be served on a person by email by sending it to –
 - (a) the last known email address used by that person as a means for communicating with them, or
 - (b) if there is no such address, an email address by means of which there are reasonable grounds to believe that an email sent to that address will come to the attention of the person, and such a notice is, unless the contrary is proved, to be treated as having been received on the day following the day on which the email is sent.”;
 - (b) in subsection (8) after “subsection (7)” insert “or (7A)”.
- (4) In section 58 (call out of members of a reserve force on authority of call-out order) –
- (a) after subsection (7) insert –
 - “(7A) A notice under this section may also be served on a person by email by sending it to –
 - (a) the last known email address used by that person as a means for communicating with them, or
 - (b) if there is no such address, an email address by means of which there are reasonable grounds to believe that an email sent to that address will come to the attention of the person, and such a notice is, unless the contrary is proved, to be treated as having been received on the day following the day on which the email is sent.”;
 - (b) in subsection (8) after “subsection (7)” insert “or (7A)”.
- (5) In section 70 (recall of persons on authority of recall order) –
- (a) after subsection (7) insert –
 - “(7A) A notice under this section may also be served on a person by email by sending it to –
 - (a) the last known email address used by that person as a means for communicating with them, or

(b) if there is no such address, an email address by means of which there are reasonable grounds to believe that an email sent to that address will come to the attention of the person, and such a notice is, unless the contrary is proved, to be treated as having been received on the day following the day on which the email is sent.”;

(b) in subsection (8) after “subsection (7)” insert “or (7A)”.

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause enables certain notices given under the Reserve Forces Act 1996 to be sent to persons by email in addition to the current provisions of the Act enabling service by post.

Schedule 5

LORD COAKER

★ Schedule 5, page 129, line 28, leave out “fourth” and insert “third”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment makes a drafting correction.

Clause 38

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO
LORD DE MAULEY

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Clause 38 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This notice to oppose clause 38 and the notice to oppose Schedule 6 in the name of Baroness Goldie would remove the provisions which reorganise the Reserve and Cadet Associations into a new non-departmental public body.

Schedule 6

LORD DE MAULEY
LORD STIRRUP

★ Schedule 6, page 134, line 22, leave out paragraph 4

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure non executive board members remain unpaid and therefore genuinely committed to the reserves and cadets.

LORD DE MAULEY
LORD STIRRUP

★ Schedule 6, page 137, line 17, at end insert—

- “(7) Each regional council in England and Wales (except Greater London) and Northern Ireland must make arrangements—
- (a) for constituting as president of the regional council the lord-lieutenant of one of the counties or parts of counties for which the regional council is established, and
 - (b) for constituting as vice-presidents of the regional council the lord-lieutenants of those counties or parts of counties for which the regional council is established (if they are willing to act).
- (8) Each regional council in Scotland will make arrangements—
- (a) in the case where a regional council area coincides with a local government area or where a local government area contains two or more regional council areas, for the selection of the president and vice-presidents of the regional council from the lord-lieutenants residing in the local government area, or
 - (b) in the case where a regional council area falls within two or more local government areas, for the selection of the president and vice-presidents of the regional council from the lord-lieutenants residing in those local government areas.
- (9) A regional council established for an area including Greater London shall provide for constituting the lord-lieutenant of Greater London as president of the regional council.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure Lord-Lieutenants' involvement as presidents of regional councils remains enshrined in primary legislation.

LORD DE MAULEY
LORD STIRRUP

★ Schedule 6, page 137, line 17, at end insert—

- “(7) A national council must be established whose members will be the chairs of the regional councils and such other members as the Defence Council shall appoint.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that there is a national voluntary body to bring together the views and contributions of the regional councils.

LORD DE MAULEY
LORD STIRRUP

★ Schedule 6, page 141, line 32, leave out sub-paragraph (5)(b).

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would prevent responsibility for production of the annual report being transferred to a body which is not independent of the Ministry of Defence.

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO
LORD DE MAULEY

The above-named Lords give notice of their intention to oppose the Question that Schedule 6 be the Sixth Schedule to the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This notice to oppose Schedule 6 and the notice to oppose clause 38 in the name of Baroness Goldie would remove the provisions which reorganise the Reserve and Cadet Associations into a new non-departmental public body.

After Clause 42

LORD THOMAS OF GRESFORD

★

After Clause 42, insert the following new Clause —

“Visiting forces agreements

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish in unredacted form any part of a treaty, memorandum of understanding or agreement between the United Kingdom and any sending country relating to visiting forces containing a decision about a jurisdictional question, including in relation to the Visiting Forces Act 1952.
- (2) Alongside the material published under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must publish a document setting out the reasons behind any decision about a jurisdictional question contained in the relevant treaty, memorandum of understanding or agreement.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes the nature of any agreements reached between the UK and a sending country in relation to jurisdiction over visiting forces, and requires the Secretary of State to set out the reasons behind such a decision.

Clause 48

LORD DANNATT

Lord Dannatt gives notice of his intention to oppose the Question that Clause 48 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This opposition to Clause 48 seeks to make the case that there should be wider consultation with the diving community before legislation is introduced.

After Clause 50

LORD CRAIG OF RADLEY

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Waived fees for indefinite leave to remain for spouses or children of serving or discharged members of the armed forces

- (1) The Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2018 (S.I. 2018/330) are amended as follows.
- (2) In paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 (applications for leave to remain in the United Kingdom), in 9.18 of table 9 (fees for applications for limited leave to remain in the United Kingdom and connected applications) —
 - (a) after (b), insert —
 - “(c) in a case where the application is made by a person who is a spouse or child of a member or previously serving member of the armed forces who has served for four or more years”
 - (b) in the closing words, leave out “and (b)” and insert “, (b), and (c)”.

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would amend the Immigration and Nationality (Fees) Regulations 2018 to waive the fee for indefinite leave to remain applications for the spouses or children of any current or previously serving members of the armed forces who have served for four or more years.

BARONESS PENN
BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Occupational paternity leave and pay

Within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, the Secretary of State must amend the Armed Forces Occupational Paternity Leave Scheme to —

- (a) extend the paternity leave entitlement of service personnel to six weeks, and
- (b) specify that the six weeks of paternity leave is fully paid.”

BARONESS GOLDIE
THE EARL OF MINTO

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Overseas operations and the European Convention on Human Rights

- (1) The Human Rights Act 1998 is amended as follows.

- (2) For section 7A (limitation: overseas forces proceedings) substitute –

“7A No proceedings for overseas operations

- (1) No proceedings may be brought under section 7(1)(a) in respect of any overseas operations by His Majesty’s forces.
- (2) “Overseas operations” means any operations outside the British Islands, including peacekeeping operations and operations for dealing with terrorism, civil unrest or serious public disorder, in the course of which members of His Majesty’s forces come under attack or face the threat of attack or violent resistance.
- (3) “His Majesty’s forces” has the same meaning as in the Armed Forces Act 2006 (see section 374 of that Act).
- (4) A member of the regular or reserve forces who has been deployed on an overseas operation under this Act may not be subject to the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights for the duration of that deployment.”

- (3) After section 14 (derogations), insert –

“14A Overseas operations and the European Convention on Human Rights

- (1) Where the Secretary of State considers that any overseas operation is, or is likely to be, significant, the Secretary of State must authorise for the United Kingdom to make a derogation under Article 15(1) of the Convention.
- (2) In this section “overseas operations” has the same meaning as in section 7A.””

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause seeks to make provision for the members of the regular or reserve forces who have been deployed under this Act to be exempt from the European Convention on Human Rights for that period of deployment.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

“Impersonation of service police

- (1) Section 90 of the Police Act 1996 (impersonation, etc.) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), after “force” insert “including service police”.
- (3) In subsection (2), after “force” insert “including service police”.
- (4) In subsection (3), after “force” insert “including service police”.

(5) In subsection (4), at end insert —

“(c) “service police” has the same meaning as in section 375 of the Armed Forces Act 2006 (definitions relating to the service police and other police forces).”

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment seeks to amend section 90 of the Police Act 1996 to make impersonating a service police officer a specific offence and afford service police the same protections against impersonation given to their civilian counterparts.

THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Protection of service police from assaults

- (1) Section 3 of the Assaults on Emergency Workers (Offences) Act 2018 (meaning of “emergency worker”) is amended as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1), after paragraph (b) insert —

“(ba) a service police officer;”.
- (3) In subsection (3), at end insert —

““service police” has the same meaning as in section 375 of the Armed Forces Act 2006 (definitions relating to the service police and other police forces).”

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment seeks to amend section 3 of the Assaults On Emergency Workers (Offences) Act 2018 to specifically include service police within the meaning of an emergency worker.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

★

After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Independent review of Armed Forces recruitment and retention

- (1) The Secretary of State must commission an independent review of the processes for recruitment and retention across His Majesty's forces.
- (2) The review under subsection (1) must, in particular, consider —
 - (a) the efficiency and consistency of recruitment processes across the Royal Navy, the regular army, the Royal Air Force and the reserve forces,
 - (b) the effectiveness of steps being taken to improve diversity and inclusion within His Majesty's forces,
 - (c) the impact of the quality of defence housing (including single living accommodation) on the retention of service personnel, and
 - (d) the impact of the medical discharge process on retention and transition to civilian life.

- (3) A report of the review must be laid before each House of Parliament no later than 12 months after the day on which this Act is passed.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause requires the Government to commission an independent review into recruitment and retention in the Armed Forces and lay the report of the review before Parliament.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM



After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

“Duty to provide medical records on discharge

- (1) This section applies where a person ceases to be a member of the regular forces or the reserve forces.
- (2) The Secretary of State must by regulations make provision for a complete copy of the person's service medical records to be provided to the person no later than one month after the day on which the person is discharged or otherwise ceases to be a member of those forces.
- (3) Those regulations may specify the manner and form in which service medical records are to be provided under this section, including provision for records to be transferred directly to a civilian health body with the person's consent.
- (4) In this section –
 - “health body” has the same meaning as in section 343AZB;
 - “service medical records” means any records relating to the person's physical or mental health care and treatment created or maintained by or on behalf of His Majesty's forces during the person's period of service.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause places a statutory duty on the Secretary of State to ensure that all service personnel leaving the military receive a complete copy of their medical records within one month of their discharge date.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM



After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause –

“Personal independence payment reassessment exemption for amputees

- (1) Within six months of the passage of this Act, the Secretary of State must make regulations which make provision for persons who have experienced an amputation as a consequence of their membership in the armed forces to be exempt from personal independence payment reassessments except in instances in which such persons have requested a reassessment.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, “personal independence payment” has the meaning given by Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would require the Secretary of State to make regulations to ensure that persons who have experienced an amputation as a consequence of their membership in the armed forces are exempt from personal independence payment reassessments.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

★ After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Reporting on the Defence Investment Plan

- (1) Every six months after the passage of this Act for the duration of this Parliament, and every year thereafter, the Secretary of State must publish a report on the implementation of the Defence Investment Plan.
- (2) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of each report under subsection (1) before each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause would compel the Government to publish and lay before Parliament a regular report on the implementation of the Defence Investment Plan every six months during this Parliament, and annually thereafter.

BARONESS SMITH OF NEWNHAM

★ After Clause 50, insert the following new Clause —

“Report on the impact of Defence Investment Plan delays

- (1) Within six months of the passage of this Act, the Secretary of State must publish an impact assessment of the delays to the implementation of the Defence Investment Plan.
- (2) The report under subsection (1) must include an assessment of the impact of such delays on —
 - (a) small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) within the UK defence supply chain,
 - (b) military procurement, equipment capability timelines, and operational readiness, and
 - (c) the financial sustainability of defence sector businesses.
- (3) In preparing the report under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must consult —
 - (a) representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises in the defence sector, and
 - (b) the Defence Suppliers Forum.
- (4) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the report under subsection (1) before each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause requires the Secretary of State to publish and lay before Parliament a one-time report within six months of the Act's passage assessing the impact of Defence Investment Plan delays on military procurement and defence businesses, with particular focus on SMEs.

Armed Forces Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Tabled up to and including

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