

HOUSE OF LORDS BUSINESS

No. 16

Items marked † are new or have been altered.

Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 3.00pm

Oral questions (40 minutes)

***Baroness D’Souza** to ask His Majesty’s Government what further consideration they have given to the appointment of a Children’s Minister at Cabinet level to coordinate cross-departmental Government programmes concerning the welfare of children.

***Lord Grocott** to ask His Majesty’s Government whether they have any plans to review the functions of the House of Lords Appointments Commission.

***Lord Naseby** to ask His Majesty’s Government what proposals they have to reverse the trend of falling rates of owner-occupation among the 25–34 age group.

***Baroness Boycott** to ask His Majesty’s Government what assessment they have made of the comments by the COP28 President that there is “no science” to suggest that phasing out fossil fuels will limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.

Business of the House The Lord Privy Seal (Lord True) to move that Standing Order 44 (*No two stages of a Bill to be taken on one day*) be dispensed with on Tuesday 12 December to enable the National Insurance Contributions (Reductions in Rates) Bill to be taken through its remaining stages that day and that, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (*Amendments on Third Reading*), amendments shall not be moved on Third Reading.

Code of Practice on Reasonable Steps to be taken by a Trade Union (Minimum Service Levels) Lord Johnson of Lainston to move that the draft Code of Practice laid before the House on 13 November be approved. *Special attention drawn to the instrument by the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee, 3rd Report.*

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Johnson of Lainston, to leave out all the words after “that” and to insert “this House declines to approve the draft Code of Practice on Reasonable Steps to be taken by a Trade Union (Minimum Service Levels) because it exposes trade unions to liability of up to £1 million, makes trade unions act as enforcement agents on behalf of employers and the Government, reduces the rights of workers to withdraw their labour, introduces legal uncertainty, and breaches international labour commitments.”

Lord Collins of Highbury to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Johnson of Lainston, at end to insert “but that this House regrets that the draft Code of Practice imposes significant new duties on trade unions, beyond the scope of the Strikes (Minimum Service Levels) Act 2023; could exacerbate conflict in the workplace; and despite its intention to provide additional clarification to unions, still contains significant areas of uncertainty.”

Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: NHS Ambulance Services and the NHS Patient Transport Service) Regulations 2023 Lord Markham to move that the draft Regulations laid before the House on 7 November be approved. *Special attention drawn to the instrument by the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee, 3rd Report*

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Markham, to leave out all the words after “that” and to insert “this House declines to approve the draft Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: NHS Ambulance Services and the NHS Patient Transport Service) Regulations 2023 because they expose trade unions to liability of up to £1 million, make trade unions act as enforcement agents on behalf of employers and the Government, and will add strain to industrial relationships when the National Health Service needs to protect them.”

Baroness Merron to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Markham, at end to insert “but that this House regrets that the draft Regulations contain policy detail that was not included in primary legislation, contrary to the recommendation of the Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee; do not reflect the policy positions taken by the Government in their response to the relevant consultation; and go against evidence received by the Government which suggests that their implementation will be challenging.”

Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: Border Security) Regulations 2023 Lord Sharpe of Epsom to move that the draft Regulations laid before the House on 7 November be approved. *Special attention drawn to the instrument by the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee, 3rd Report*

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Sharpe of Epsom, to leave out all the words after “that” and to insert “this House declines to approve the draft Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: Border Security) Regulations 2023 because they expose trade unions to liability of up to £1 million, make trade unions act as enforcement agents on behalf of employers and the Government, reduce the rights of workers to withdraw their labour, and will prohibit around 75 per cent of Border Force workers from taking part in strike action.”

Lord Coaker to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Sharpe of Epsom, at end to insert “but that this House regrets that the draft Regulations contain policy detail that was not included in primary legislation, contrary to the recommendation of the Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee; and considers, given that the impact assessment acknowledges that some workers’ right to take industrial action will be affected or denied, that they are too prohibitive.”

Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: Passenger Railway Services) Regulations 2023 Lord Davies of Gower to move that the draft Regulations laid before the House on 7 November be approved. *Special attention drawn to the instrument by the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee, 3rd Report*

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Davies of Gower, to leave out all the words after “that” and to insert “this House declines to approve the draft Strikes (Minimum Service Levels: Passenger Railway Services) Regulations 2023 because they expose trade unions to liability of up to £1 million, make trade unions act as enforcement agents on behalf of employers and the Government, are likely to prohibit more than 40 per cent of rail industry workers from taking part in strike action, and fail to ensure that rail services will be safe on strike days.”

Lord Liddle to move, as an amendment to the motion in the name of Lord Davies of Gower, at end to insert “but that this House regrets that the draft Regulations contain policy detail that was not included in primary legislation, contrary to the recommendation of the Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform Committee; that their retrospective element will create uncertainty; that the impact assessment is not sufficiently robust; that it is unclear whether contractual relationships will impact the issue of work notices; and that they may prevent workers from being able to take industrial action.”

Grand Committee in the Moses Room at 4.15pm

Aviation (Consumers) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 Consideration in Grand Committee [Lord Davies of Gower]

Plant Health etc. (Miscellaneous Fees) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2023 Consideration in Grand Committee [Lord Benyon] *1st Report from the Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee*

Payment and Electronic Money Institution Insolvency (Amendment) Regulations 2023 Consideration in Grand Committee [Baroness Vere of Norbiton]