

BBC Licence Fee Payers (Voting Rights) Bill

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TO

Require the BBC to enable licence fee payers to vote on its strategic direction and aspects of senior salaries and programming, including referenda on particular issues; to provide for election of the BBC Trust and the non-executive members of the BBC Executive Board by licence fee payers; to make other provision relating to the governance of the BBC; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Requirements on the BBC

Notwithstanding anything in any enactment or charter the BBC must put in place arrangements for individual licence-fee payers to vote on—

- (a) the BBC's strategic direction;
- (b) aspects of senior salaries; 5
- (c) programming;
- (d) election of the BBC Trust;
- (e) election of non-executive members of the BBC Executive Board;
- (f) the level of licence fee; and
- (g) ratification of the annual report. 10

2 Actions by the Secretary of State

(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations made by statutory instrument, subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament, define, for the purposes of section 1—

- (a) the term “strategic direction”; and 15
- (b) which aspects of —
 - (i) senior salaries,
 - (ii) programming, and
 - (iii) governance
 must be subject to a vote. 20

- (2) The regulations shall also—
- (a) set out how such votes are to be conducted, which shall include provision that they be conducted on the internet; and
 - (b) make provision for referenda on particular issues.

3 Short title and commencement

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- (1) This Act may be cited as the BBC Licence Fee Payers (Voting Rights) Act 2011.
- (2) This Act shall come into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.

BBC Licence Fee Payers (Voting Rights) Bill

A

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To require the BBC to enable licence fee payers to vote on its strategic direction and aspects of senior salaries and programming, including referenda on particular issues; to provide for election of the BBC Trust and the non-executive members of the BBC Executive Board by licence fee payers; to make other provision relating to the governance of the BBC; and for connected purposes.

*Ordered to be brought in by Robert Halfon,
Nick de Bois, Craig Whittaker,
Pauline Latham, David Tredinnick,
Priti Patel, Mr James Clappison,
Mr Lee Scott, Mr David Nuttall,
Laura Sandys, Simon Hart
and Nadhim Zahawi.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 8 February 2011.*

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