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Require water companies to provide social tariffs for low income families; 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 Social tariffs

- (1) A company providing water or sewerage services to domestic customers shall provide a social tariff for those of its customers who, as a household, spend 5 per cent or more of their income on water and sewerage services.
- (2) The Secretary of State, or, in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Ministers and the Northern Ireland Government respectively, shall make regulations governing the prices and application of social tariffs within the meaning of subsection (1). 5
- (3) Regulations under subsection (2) shall also make provision for landlords to provide details of their tenants to the relevant water company to enable the company to offer the social tariff to such tenants as qualify for it. 10
- (4) Regulations made by the Secretary of State shall be contained in a statutory instrument and may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, both Houses of Parliament.

2 Short title, commencement and extent 15

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Water Companies (Social Tariffs) Act 2013.
- (2) This Act, except section 1(1), shall come into force on Royal Assent; and section 1(1) shall come into effect when regulations under section 1(2) are in force in the relevant territory.
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. 20

Water Companies (Social Tariffs) Bill

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and for connected purposes.

*Presented by Thomas Docherty,
supported by
Mrs Mary Glendon, Iain McKenzie,
Mr Andy Slaughter and Susan Elan Jones.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 25 June 2012.*

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