



House of Commons

Tuesday 26 February 2013

PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE

New Amendments handed in are marked thus ★

☆ *Amendments which will comply with the required notice period at their next appearance*

MARRIAGE (SAME SEX COUPLES) BILL

NOTE

The Amendments have been arranged in accordance with the Order of the Committee [12 February].

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, leave out subsection (1) and insert—
'(1) Marriage of same sex couples is deemed to be legitimate.'

15

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, leave out subsection (1) and insert—
'(1) Where a same sex couple solemnize a marriage between each other in accordance with the provisions set out in subsection (2) below they shall be deemed to be married to each other.'

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Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, leave out subsection (1) and insert—
'(1) Marriage of same sex couples is legally equivalent to marriage between the couples of the opposite sex.'

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Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

18

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, leave out subsection (1) and insert—

- ‘(1) Marriage of same sex couples is legally equivalent and is deemed to be morally equivalent to marriage between couples of the opposite sex.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

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Clause 1, page 1, line 5, at end insert ‘and is deemed to be equivalent to the marriage of different sex couples.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

20

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, at end add—

- ‘() The purpose of marriage is—
- (a) companionship (including its expression in sexual union);
 - (b) fidelity (including its expression in sexual fidelity) and stability;
 - (c) procreation and the nurture of children;
 - (d) mutual care and provision in sickness and in health;
 - (e) to benefit society.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

21

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, at end add—

- ‘() The purpose of marriage is—
- (a) companionship (not including its expression in sexual union);
 - (b) fidelity (not including its expression in sexual fidelity) and stability;
 - (c) not procreation and the nurture of children;
 - (d) mutual care and provision in sickness and in health;
 - (e) to benefit society.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Mr Rob Wilson

10

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, after ‘The’, insert ‘civil’.

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

22

Clause 1, page 1, line 16, at end insert ‘Nothing in this Act shall prejudice the rights, privileges or powers of the Church of England to make provision about marriage.’

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

23

Clause 1, page 1, line 17, leave out subsection (4) and insert—

‘Any duty of a member of the clergy—

- (a) to prepare a couple for marriage,
- (b) to solemnize a marriage,
- (c) to provide care, counselling or other support and services to a couple by reason of their marriage,

(and any corresponding right of persons with respect to the activities of members of the clergy in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection) is not extended by this Act to marriages of same sex couples.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Mr Rob Wilson

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Clause 1, page 1, line 20, at end add—

‘(5) Any duty of a registrar to conduct a marriage is not extended by this Act to marriages of same sex couples where a registrar holds a conscientious objection to conducting such marriages.’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton

12

Clause 1, page 2, line 3, at end insert—

- ‘() Premises owned or under the control of bodies specified in Schedule [] may not be licensed for the solemnization of a same sex marriage.
- () The Secretary of State must, by order or regulations, amend the list of bodies specified in Schedule [] if further bodies notify him that they wish to be included in the Schedule.’

Tim Loughton
 Mr David Burrowes

35

★ Clause 1, page 2, line 3, at end insert—

‘(c) a priest whose orders are recognised as Anglican by the Church of England or the Church in Wales.’

Tim Loughton
 Mr David Burrowes

36

★ Clause 1, page 2, line 3, at end insert—

‘(d) any person acting in respect of any of the conduct specified in subsection (4) above on the instructions of any person mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection.’

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

Kate Green
Chris Bryant

9

Clause 2, page 2, line 9, after ‘compelled’, insert ‘by a couple who wish to be married’.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

34

Clause 2, page 2, line 22, at end insert—

- ‘(3A) No person shall be subject to discrimination or other unfavourable action in the course of employment or in the provision of goods or services for stating or teaching that a same sex marriage is not morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman.
- (3B) Where a person alleges in any proceedings that there has been discrimination or other unfavourable action against him for reasons which include that he has stated or taught that a same sex marriage is not morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman, it shall be for the person against whom those proceedings are brought to prove that the reasons for the action constituting the alleged discrimination or other unfavourable treatment did not include those statements or teaching regarding same sex marriage.
- (3C) The reference in subsection (3A) above to discrimination or other unfavourable action in the course of employment or in the provision of goods or service includes—
- (a) discriminating by not concluding a contract of employment with the person stating or teaching that a same sex marriage is not morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman,
 - (b) discriminating by not concluding a contract for the provision of goods or services with the person stating or teaching that a same sex marriage is not morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman,
 - (c) not offering a benefit, whether financial or not, to the person stating or teaching that a same sex marriage is not morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman that is or would be offered to a person stating or teaching that a same sex marriage is morally equivalent to a marriage between a man and a woman.’

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

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Clause 2, page 3, line 16, at end insert—

“compelled” includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- (a) the imposition of any penalties (whether civil or criminal),
- (b) the less favourable treatment of a person by a public authority, and
- (c) the initiation of any legal action by way of a review,

in each case as a result of the exercise by a relevant governing or relevant religious organisation of functions relating to giving any consent or to refusing to give any consent provided for in sections 2, 4, 5, or 7 of this Act.’

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, continued

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

25

Clause 2, page 3, line 21, leave out subsection (b).

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

26

Clause 2, page 4, line 13, at end insert—

“Marriage counselling etc.

- 25B (1) A person does not contravene section 29 only because the person conducts—
- (a) a marriage preparation course,
 - (b) a marriage counselling or guidance service, or
 - (c) an agency to help people find a spouse,
- and does not extend those services to marriages of same-sex couples.’.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

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Clause 2, page 4, line 13, at end insert—

‘Marriage according to religious rites: Opt-in and opt-out activity

- 25B (1) A person does not contravene section 29 only because the person—
- (a) refrains from undertaking an opt-in activity, or
 - (b) undertakes an opt-out activity.
- (2) Expressions used in this paragraph and in section 2 of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 have the same meaning in this paragraph as in that section.’.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

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Clause 2, page 4, line 13, at end insert—

‘Religious premises: Trustees

- 25B (1) A person who is the trustee of a trust for the advancement of religion does not contravene section 29 only because he refuses to consent to premises owned or controlled by the trust being used for marriages of same sex couples.’.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

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Clause 2, page 4, line 13, at end insert—

- ‘(6) For the purposes of section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, no regard may be had by any public authority to any decision by a relevant governing authority or

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

relevant religious organisation to give any consent or to refuse to give any consent provided for in sections 2, 4, 5, or 7 of this Act’.

Kate Green
Chris Bryant
Stephen Williams
Stephen Doughty

Clause 8, page 8, line 17, leave out ‘may’ and insert ‘shall’.

2

Kate Green
Chris Bryant
Stephen Williams
Stephen Doughty

Clause 8, page 8, line 20, leave out ‘may’ and insert ‘shall’.

3

Dr Julian Huppert

Clause 9, page 10, line 24, at end insert—

- ‘(9) Where a civil partnership formed under part 1, section 96 of the Civil Partnership Act (Civil Partnership with former spouse) is converted into a marriage under this section—
- (a) the civil partnership ends on the conversion, and
 - (b) if both partners so elect, the resulting marriage is to be treated as having subsisted since the marriage dissolved under Schedule 2 of the Gender Recognition Act 2004 was formed.’

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Dr Julian Huppert

Schedule 5, page 36, leave out lines 10 to 37 and insert—

‘Section 4 (successful applications): for subsections (2) and (3) substitute—

“(2) The certificate is to be a full gender recognition certificate if—

- (a) the applicant is not a civil partner and does not request an interim gender recognition certificate,
- (b) or the applicant is a civil partner who does not request an interim gender recognition certificate and the Panel has decided to issue a full gender recognition certificate to the other party to the civil partnership.

(3) The certificate is to be an interim gender recognition certificate if either—

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Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, continued

- (a) the applicant is a party to a protected civil partnership and the other party to the civil partnership has not made an application under section 1(1),
- (b) the applicant is a party to a protected civil partnership and the Panel has decided not to issue a full gender recognition certificate to the other party to the civil partnership,
- (c) or the applicant is party to a protected marriage, requests an interim gender recognition certificate and the application includes a statutory declaration of consent from the applicant's spouse.

(3A) If a gender recognition panel issues a full gender recognition certificate under this section to an applicant who is a party to a marriage or civil partnership, the panel must give the applicant's spouse notice of the issue of the certificate."'.

Dr Julian Huppert

Schedule 5, page 39, line 39, leave out '(by virtue of section 4(2)(b) or 4A)'. 6

Hugh Bayley

Schedule 5, page 40, line 18, at end insert— 13

'Reinstatement of marriages annulled to permit a person to obtain a gender recognition certificate

9A Schedule 4 (Effect on Marriage) at beginning insert:

- (1) This section applies to a formerly married couple whose marriage was annulled in order to permit one or both partners to that marriage to obtain a full gender recognition certificate provided that:
 - (a) the marriage was annulled following the coming into force of the Gender Recognition Act 2004, and
 - (b) the formerly married couple either:
 - (i) formed a civil partnership with each other within six months of the annulment of their marriage, and continue to maintain their civil partnership, or
 - (ii) have continued to live together in the same household since the annulment of their marriage, and
 - (iii) both partners to the former marriage give notice that they wish their marriage to be reinstated - with effect from the date that it was annulled.
- (2) When notice is given under section (1)(b)(iii), the marriage shall be reinstated with effect from the date it was annulled.
- (3) In such circumstances the continuity of the marriage shall not be affected in any way and all legal rights that accrued to either party to that marriage will be reinstated - including the right to pensions, tax status in the UK, rights to property and inheritance.
- (4) In those cases where the couple subsequently formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership shall be set aside.
- (5) The couple whose marriage is reinstated shall be compensated from public funds for the costs they incurred in annulling the marriage, separating their financial affairs, forming a civil partnership and in respect of their costs incurred in the UK or abroad as a result of the annulment of their marriage."'.

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

Dr Julian Huppert

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- Schedule 5, page 40, leave out lines 30 to 31 and insert—
- (a) the registration of qualifying marriages,
 - (b) the registration of qualifying civil partnerships,
 - (c) the issue of replacement marriage certificates displaying the new details of the parties to the marriage but maintaining the original date,
 - (d) the issue of replacement birth certificates where the application is shown on the certificate, with the consent of the other parent named and—
 - (i) where the child has reached 16 years of age, the consent of the child to whom the birth certificate relates,
 - (ii) where the child has not yet reached the age of 16 years, the consent of the other parent named on the birth certificate, where present.’

Hugh Bayley

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- Schedule 5, page 41, line 5, after ‘to’, insert ‘one or’.
-

Dr Julian Huppert

4

- Schedule 7, page 50, line 37, at end insert—
 ‘(24A) Section 12 (grounds on which a marriage is voidable): omit paragraph (h).’

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton
 Jim Shannon

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- Schedule 7, page 52, line 26, at end insert—

‘Human Rights Act 1998. (c.42)

42 The Human Rights Act 1998 is amended as follows.

43 Section 6: after subsection 3 insert—

- “(3A) A “public authority” for the purposes of this section does not include a relevant governing authority or relevant religious organisation in respect of functions relating to giving any consent or to refusing to give any consent provided for in sections 2, 4, 5, or 7 of the [Marriage (Same Sex Couples)] Act 2013.”’.

Mr David Burrowes
 Tim Loughton

31

- Schedule 7, page 52, line 26, at end insert—

‘42 The Education Act 1996 is amended as follows.

43 Section 403 (sex education: manner of provision), after subsection (1D) insert—

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

- “(1E) For the purposes of subsection (1A), no school shall be under any duty as a result of guidance issued, to promote or endorse any understanding of the nature of marriage that is contrary to the character and designation of the school.”.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

32

Schedule 7, page 52, line 26, at end insert—

Public Order Act 1986

- 42 (1) Section 29JA is amended as follows.
43 (2) For section 29JA there shall be substituted the following—

“29JA Protection of freedom of expression (sexual orientation)

In this Part, for the avoidance of doubt, the discussion or criticism of sexual conduct or practices or the urging of persons to refrain from or modify such conduct or practices or the discussion or criticism of same-sex marriage shall not be taken of itself to be threatening or intend to stir up hatred.”.

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

33

Schedule 7, page 52, line 26, at end insert—

‘42 (1) Section 89 (interpretation and exceptions): After subsection (1) insert—

“(1A) For the avoidance of doubt, the discussion or criticism of sexual conduct or practices or the discussion or criticism of same-sex marriage shall not be taken of itself to be discrimination for the purposes of section 85.”.

NEW CLAUSES

Part 1 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004

Mr Rob Wilson
Dr Julian Huppert
Greg Mulholland
Stephen Williams
Charlotte Leslie

NC1

To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Part 1 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
(2) In section 1, subsection (1), leave out “of the same sex”.’.
-

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*
Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004

Mr Rob Wilson
 Dr Julian Huppert
 Greg Mulholland
 Stephen Williams
 Charlotte Leslie

NC2

To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 3, subsection (1), after “if—”, leave out—
 “(a) they are not of the same sex”.’.

Marriages according to usages of approved organisations

Dr Julian Huppert
 Stephen Williams
 Kelvin Hopkins

NC3

To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) In the Marriage Act 1949, after section 47, insert the following section—

“47A Marriages according to usages of approved organisations

- (1) The Registrar General may by certificate approve organisations to solemnise marriages according to their usages provided that any such organisation—
 - (a) is a registered charity concerned with advancing or practising a religion or belief, including a non-religious belief;
 - (b) does not possess or have the use of any registered place of worship; and
 - (c) appears to the Registrar General to be of good repute.
- (2) In the certificate referred to in subsection (1) the Registrar General shall designate an officer of the organisation (“the principal officer”) to appoint persons for stated periods of time to act as registering officers on behalf of the organisation, and may impose such conditions as seem to him or her to be desirable relative to the conduct of marriages by the organisation and to the safe custody of marriage register books.
- (3) The principal officer shall, within the prescribed time and in the prescribed manner, certify the names and addresses of the persons so appointed to the Registrar General and to the superintendent registrars of the registration districts in which such persons live, together with such other details as the Registrar General shall require.
- (4) A marriage shall not be solemnised according to the usages of an approved organisation until duplicate marriage register books have been supplied by the Registrar General under Part IV of this Act to the registering officers appointed to act on behalf of the organisation.

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

- (5) If the Registrar General is not satisfied with respect to any registering officer of the approved organisation that sufficient security exists for the safe custody of marriage register books, he or she may in his or her discretion suspend the appointment of that registering officer.
- (6) A marriage to which this section applies shall be solemnised with open doors in the presence of either—
- (a) a registrar of the registration district in which the marriage takes place; or
 - (b) a registering officer appointed under subsection (2) whose name and address have been certified in accordance with subsection (3) and of two witnesses;
- and the persons to be married shall make the declarations and use the form of words set out in subsection (3) or (3A) of section 44.
- (7) A marriage solemnised according to the usages of an approved organisation shall not be valid unless there is produced to the superintendent registrar, at the time when notice of marriage is given, a certificate signed by the principal officer or a registering officer of the approved organisation that each person giving notice of marriage is a member of the said organisation.
- (8) A certificate under subsection (7) shall be for all purposes conclusive evidence that any person to whom it relates is authorised to be married according to the usages of the said organisation and the entry of the marriage in a marriage register book under Part IV of this Act, or a certified copy thereof made under the said Part IV, shall be conclusive evidence of the production of such a certificate.”
- (2) Schedule [Consequential amendments—Marriage according to usages of approved organisations] has effect.’

Civil partnerships for opposite sex couples

Hugh Bayley

NC4

To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Any couple of opposite sex who are entitled to marry may instead apply for and be granted a civil partnership in the same way as a same sex couple under the Civil Partnership Act 2004.
 - (2) Section 9 of this Act shall apply to the conversion of a marriage into a civil partnership as it does to conversion of civil partnership into a marriage.’
-

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued**Conscientious objection*

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

NC5

To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) No person shall be under any duty, whether by contract or by statutory or other legal requirement, to conduct a marriage to which he has a conscientious objection.
 - (2) For the purposes of this section, a “conscientious objection” exists where the refusal to conduct a marriage is only that it concerns a same sex couple, and is based on the person’s sincerely held religious or other beliefs.
 - (3) This section is without prejudice to the duty of a registration authority to ensure that there is a sufficient number of registrars and superintendent registrars for its area to carry out in that area the functions of registrars and superintendents.
 - (4) In any legal proceedings the burden of proof of conscientious objection shall rest on the person claiming to rely on it.’
-

Existing charitable trust deeds

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

NC6

To move the following Clause:—

‘A charitable trust deed which includes in its objects, directly or indirectly, the promotion of marriage or the provision of marriage counselling is not extended by this Act to marriages of same-sex couples.’

Education: Parental right of withdrawal

Mr David Burrowes
Tim Loughton
Jim Shannon

NC7

To move the following Clause:—

‘In the event that a school teaches about same-sex marriage in a way which conflicts with the beliefs of a parent, that parent shall have a right to withdraw their child from the lesson or lessons in which that teaching takes place, regardless of whether the lesson is deemed to constitute sex education.’

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004—adultery

Charlotte Leslie

NC8

☆ To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 44, subsection (5), at end add—
 - “(e) that the respondent has committed adultery and the applicant finds it intolerable to live with the respondent.”.’.

Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004—non-consummation

Charlotte Leslie

NC9

☆ To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Part 2 of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 50, subsection (1), at end insert—
 - “(f) the Civil Partnership has not been consummated owing to the incapacity of either party to consummate it;
 - (g) the Civil Partnership has not been consummated owing to the wilful refusal of the respondent to consummate it.”.’.

Part 2 of the Equality Act 2010—belief about the nature of marriage

Charlotte Leslie

NC10

☆ To move the following Clause:—

- ‘(1) Part 2 of the Equality Act 2010 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 4, at end add—
- (3) “belief about the nature of marriage”.
- (4) After section 12 insert the following clause—
 - “(12A) In relation to the protected characteristic of belief about the nature of marriage—
 - (a) a reference to a person who has a particular protected characteristic is a reference to a person who holds a particular belief about the nature of marriage;

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

- (b) a reference to persons who share a protected characteristic is a reference to persons who hold the same belief about the nature of marriage.”’.
-

The Equality Act 2010

Mr Rob Wilson

NC11

★ To move the following Clause:—

‘(1) The Equality Act 2010 is amended as follows.

(2) After Clause 9, insert—

“(10) No person shall suffer any detriment in respect of his opposition to same sex marriage or the reasonable expression thereof, where that person’s opposition to same sex marriage is—

(a) motivated by his conscience; or

(b) motivated by his deeply and genuinely held religious or philosophical beliefs.”’.

Registrars of marriages of same sex couples

Mr Rob Wilson

NC12

★ To move the following Clause:—

‘(1) It is the duty of each registration authority to ensure that there is a sufficient number of registrars for its area to carry out in that area the functions of a registrar in respect of marriages of same sex couples.’.

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, continued*NEW SCHEDULE*

Dr Julian Huppert
Kelvin Hopkins
Stephen Williams

NS1

To move the following Schedule:—

‘CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS—MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO USAGES OF APPROVED ORGANISATIONS

The following amendments are made to the Marriage Act 1949—

- (1) In section 26 (marriages which may be solemnised on authority of superintendent registrar’s certificate) in subsection (1) after paragraph (c) there is inserted—
 - “(ca) a marriage conducted under the auspices of an approved organisation;”.
- (2) In section 35 (marriages in registration district in which neither party resides) after “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”.
- (3) In section 43 (appointment of authorised persons) in subsection (3) after “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an organisation authorised by the Registrar General under section 47A”.
- (4) In section 50 (person to whom certificate to be delivered), in subsection (1) after paragraph (d) there is inserted—
 - “(da) if the marriage is to be solemnised according to the usages of an approved organisation, a registering officer of that organisation”.
- (5) After section 52, the following section is inserted—

“52A Interpretation

In this Part of this Act “approved organisation” has the meaning given to it in section 67.”.

- (6) In section 53 (persons by whom marriages are to be registered), after paragraph (b) there is inserted—
 - “(ba) in the case of a marriage solemnised according to the usages of an approved organisation, a registered officer of that organisation;”.
- (7) In section 54 (provision of marriage register books by Registrar General), in subsection (1) after the words “the Society of Friends,” there is inserted “registering officer of every approved organisation”.
- (8) In section 55 (manner of registration of marriages)—
 - (a) in subsection (1) after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”; and
 - (b) in subsection (1)(b) after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation” and after the words “the said Society” there is inserted “or organisation”.
- (9) In section 57 (quarterly returns to be made to superintendent registrar), in subsection (1) after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”.
- (10) In section 59 (custody of register books) after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”.
- (11) In section 60 (filled register books) in subsection (1), paragraph (b), after the words “registering officer of the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”; after the words “members of the Society of Friends”

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, continued

there is inserted “or of the said organisation”, and after the words “the said Society” there is inserted “or organisation”.

- (12) In section 63 (searches in register books) after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”.
- (13) In section 67 (interpretation of Part IV), there are inserted in the list of definitions the following—
- ““approved organisation” means an organisation approved by the Registrar General under section 47A of this Act;” and
- ““registering officer of an approved organisation” means a person whom the principal officer of the said organisation certifies in writing under his or her hand to the Registrar General to be a registering officer in England or Wales of that organisation;”;
- and in the definition of “superintendent registrar” after paragraph (b) insert—
- “(ba) in the case of a marriage registered by a registering officer of an approved organisation, the superintendent registrar of the registration district which is assigned by the Registrar General to that registering officer;”.
- (14) In section 75 (offences relating to solemnisation of marriages) in subsection (1), paragraph (a), after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”; and in subsection (2), paragraph (a), after the words “the Society of Friends” there is inserted “or of an approved organisation”.

Dr Julian Huppert
Stephen Williams

1

Title, line 4, after ‘overseas’, insert ‘to permit the Registrar General to permit certain charitable organisations to solemnise marriages.’.

ORDER OF THE HOUSE [5 FEBRUARY 2013]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Public Bill Committee.

Proceedings in Public Bill Committee

2. Proceedings in the Public Bill Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on 12 March 2013.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Consideration and Third Reading

4. Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading shall be taken in two days in accordance with the following provisions of this Order.
5. Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on the second day.
6. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, continued

brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on the second day.

7. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

8. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed.

ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE [12 FEBRUARY 2013]

That—

- (1) the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 8.00 am on Tuesday 12 February) meet—
- (a) at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 12 February;
 - (b) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 14 February;
 - (c) at 8.55 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 26 February;
 - (d) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 28 February;
 - (e) at 8.55 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 5 March;
 - (f) at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 7 March; and
 - (g) at 8.55 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 12 March;
- (2) the Committee shall hear oral evidence in accordance with the following Table;

TABLE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Witness</i>
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 9.00 am	Department for Culture, Media and Sport; Department for Education
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 9.45 am	The Church of England
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 10.30 am	The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 11.00 am	The Church in Wales
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 11.25 am	Lord Pannick QC; Baroness Kennedy of the Shaws QC
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 3.00 pm	Stonewall; Lesbian and Gay Foundation; Gender Identity Research and Education Society
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 3.45 pm	Liberal Judaism; Board of Deputies of British Jews
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 4.15 pm	Out4Marriage

Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, *continued*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Witness</i>
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 4.45 pm	Coalition for Marriage
Tuesday 12 February	Until no later than 5.15 pm	Professor Julian Rivers, University of Bristol Law School
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 12.15 pm	The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers in Britain); the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 1.00 pm	The Methodist Church; the United Reformed Church
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 2.45 pm	Liberty; Equality and Human Rights Commission; The Co-operative Group
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 3.15 pm	Schools OUT; PHSE Association
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 3.45 pm	The Very Reverend Jeffrey John, Dean of St Albans; Alice Arnold, broadcaster
Thursday 14 February	Until no later than 4.15 pm	Brendan O'Neill, journalist; Mark Jones, partner at Ormerods Solicitors

- (3) proceedings on consideration of the Bill in Committee shall be taken in the following order: Clauses 1 to 4; Schedule 1; Clauses 5 to 10; Schedule 2; Clause 11; Schedules 3 and 4; Clause 12; Schedule 5; Clause 13; Schedule 6; Clause 14; Schedule 7; Clauses 15 to 18; new Clauses; new Schedules; remaining proceedings on the Bill; and
- (4) the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 12 March.
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