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Provide that certain offences committed towards members of the armed forces shall be treated as aggravated; to prohibit discrimination against individuals in terms of provision of goods and services on the grounds that they are members of the armed forces; 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 Amendment of Criminal Justice Act 2003

In section 146 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003 (increase in sentences for aggravation related to disability or sexual orientation, sexual orientation or transgender identity) —

- (a) in the title of the section, add at the end “or status as a service person”; 5
- (b) after subsection (2)(a)(iii) insert “or —
 - (iv) the victim being, or being presumed to be, a service person.”;
- (c) after subsection (2)(b)(iii) insert “or —
 - (iv) by hostility towards service people.”; and
- (d) after subsection (6) insert — 10
 - “(7) In this section “service person” has the meaning given in section 343B of the Armed Forces Act 2006, except that “relevant family member” shall mean any relative.”.

2 Prohibition of discrimination against members of the armed forces in provision of goods and services

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- (1) The Equality Act 2010 is amended as follows.
- (2) At the end of section 4 are added the words “status as a member or former member of the armed forces/service person or former service person.”

3 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Armed Forces (Prevention of Discrimination) Act 2014.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the expiration of two months, beginning with the date of Royal Assent.

Armed Forces (Prevention of Discrimination) Bill

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To provide that certain offences committed towards members of the armed forces shall be treated as aggravated; to prohibit discrimination against individuals in terms of provision of goods and services on the grounds that they are members of the armed forces; and for connected purposes.

Presented by Thomas Docherty.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 24 June 2013.*

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