

Food Insecurity Bill

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TO

Require the Government to monitor and report on food insecurity; to make provision for official statistics on food insecurity; 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 Duty of Secretary of State to monitor and report on food insecurity

- (1) The Secretary of State must establish annual monitoring of and reporting on household food insecurity in the United Kingdom.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act “food insecurity” means a person’s state in which consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year. 5

2 Monitoring and reporting

- (1) The Statistics and Registration Act 2007 is amended as follows.
- (2) After section 9 insert—

“9A Official statistics: food insecurity” 10

- (1) The Secretary of State must lay before each House of Parliament a draft of an order, under section 6(1)(b) of this Act, to make provision for official statistics for the monitoring of household food insecurity in the United Kingdom, including provision for the inclusion in the annual Living Costs and Food Survey of food insecurity questions. 15
- (2) Before laying a draft order under subsection (1) the Secretary of State must—
 - (a) consult the Scottish Ministers, the Welsh Ministers, the relevant Northern Ireland department, and such other persons (in addition to the Board) as the Secretary of State considers appropriate, and 20

- (b) have due regard to international best practice on food insecurity, including but not limited to the United States Household Food Security Survey.
- (3) As soon as practicable after the publication each year of Living Costs and Food Survey data, the Secretary of State must publish an annual report on food insecurity. 5
- (4) The Secretary of State’s annual report must include –
- (a) an assessment of trends in food insecurity, broken down by different parts of the United Kingdom and different regions of England, and 10
- (b) a summary of actions to be taken in areas of high food insecurity by the UK Government, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government or the Northern Ireland Executive.
- (5) The Secretary of State must consult the Scottish Ministers, the Welsh Ministers and the relevant Northern Ireland department before preparing a report under subsection (4). 15
- (6) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a copy of each report prepared under subsection (4).
- (7) In this section –
- “parts of the United Kingdom” means – 20
- (a) England,
- (b) Scotland,
- (c) Wales, and
- (d) Northern Ireland;
- “regions of England” has the same meaning as that used by the Office for National Statistics.” 25

3 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed. 30
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Food Insecurity Act 2018.

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To require the Government to monitor and report on food insecurity; to make provision for official statistics on food insecurity; and for connected purposes.

*Ordered to be brought in by
Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck,
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*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 29 November 2017.*

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