

# European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 2) Bill

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Make provision in connection with the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

**B**E 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 Pre-condition for subsequent provisions to come into effect**

- (1) Sections 2 to 4 of this Act come into force (except as provided for in section 4(8)) unless the condition in subsection (2) is met.
- (2) The condition of this subsection is that, on or before 11 February 2019, the House of Commons has passed a resolution approving the negotiated withdrawal agreement and the framework for the future relationship for the purposes of section 13(1)(b) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (“the 2018 Act”). 5

**2 Preparation of plan by Liaison Committee**

- (1) If the condition in section 1(2) is not met, the Secretary of State must invite the Liaison Committee of the House of Commons to prepare and publish by 5 March 2019 a plan of action setting out a proposed process in connection with the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (“the Section 2 Plan”). 10
- (2) The Secretary of State must provide such assistance to the Liaison Committee of the House of Commons as it may request (provided that the cost of providing that assistance does not exceed £250,000). 15
- (3) If the name of the Liaison Committee of the House of Commons is changed, any reference in this Act to that Committee is to be treated as a reference to that Committee by its new name. 20
- (4) Any question arising under subsection (3) is to be determined by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

### 3 Approval of Section 2 Plan and duty to implement

- (1) If the Section 2 Plan is published on or before 5 March 2019, the Secretary of State must, as soon as practicable thereafter and no later than 7 March 2019, make a motion in the House of Commons to the effect that the House of Commons approves the Section 2 Plan. 5
- (2) The Secretary of State must take all such steps as are necessary to implement –
- (a) any resolution of the House of Commons arising from the motion made under subsection (2), and
  - (b) the Section 2 Plan, so far as approved in that resolution.
- (3) Nothing in subsection (2) authorises the payment of money out of sums voted by Parliament unless authorised by another Act. 10

### 4 Provisions relating to the extension of Article 50 period

- (1) The conditions in this subsection are that –
- (a) no Section 2 Plan is published on or before 5 March 2019,
  - (b) the House of Commons does not on or before 7 March 2019 pass a resolution arising from a motion made under section 3(1), 15
  - (c) the Section 2 Plan recommends that the Prime Minister seek an extension of the period of two years specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union to a specified date and that recommendation has been approved by a resolution under section 3. 20
- (2) If the condition in subsection (1)(a) is met, the Prime Minister must seek an extension of the period of two years specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union to a period ending on 31 December 2019 no later than 6 March 2019.
- (3) If the condition in subsection (1)(b) is met, the Prime Minister must seek an extension of the period of two years specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union to a period ending on 31 December 2019 no later than 8 March 2019. 25
- (4) If the condition in subsection (1)(c) is met, the Prime Minister must seek an extension of the period of two years specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union to the date specified in the Section 2 Plan no later than the day after the day on which the resolution is agreed to. 30
- (5) Nothing in this section prevents the Prime Minister from seeking an extension of the period of two years specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union if none of the conditions in subsection (1) is met. 35
- (6) The 2018 Act is amended in accordance with subsection (7).
- (7) In section 20 (interpretation) –
- (a) in subsection (1), in the definition of “exit day”, for “29 March 2019”, substitute “31 December 2019”,
  - (b) in subsection (2), for “29 March 2019”, substitute “31 December 2019”. 40
- (8) Subsections (6) and (7) come into force if the European Council, in agreement with the United Kingdom, decides to extend the period specified in Article 50(3) of the Treaty on European Union to a period ending on 31 December 2019.

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**5 Interpretation, commencement, extent and short title**

- (1) Any term used in this Act which is also defined in section 20 of the 2018 Act has the same meaning in this Act as in that Act.
- (2) Except as provided for in sections 1(1) and 4(8), this Act comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (4) This Act may be cited as the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2019.

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## B I L L

To make provision in connection with the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union.

*Presented by Nick Boles  
supported by  
Liz Kendall, Norman Lamb,  
Yvette Cooper, Nicky Morgan,  
Hilary Benn and Sir Oliver Letwin.*

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons,  
to be Printed, 15th January 2019.*

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