

# Domestic Building Works (Consumer Protection) Bill

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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- 1 Licensing of builders for domestic works
- 2 Extent, commencement and short title



[AS INTRODUCED]

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# B I L L

TO

Make provision about consumer protection in relation to domestic building works; and for connected purposes.

**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 Licensing of builders for domestic works

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations make provision for a licensing scheme for builders undertaking domestic building works in England.
- (2) The purposes of a scheme made under this section are—
  - (a) to protect consumers who are not professional property developers, and 5
  - (b) to promote fair competition among reputable builders.
- (3) The regulations may make provision for—
  - (a) the licensing of sole traders, partnerships and other companies, including primary contractors and sub-contractors, but not the licensing of employees; 10
  - (b) the definition of “domestic building works” for the purposes of the scheme;
  - (c) requirements for companies to hold a licence under paragraph (a) in order to undertake domestic building works; 15
  - (d) creating offences punishable with a fine in respect of undertaking such works without a licence, and about such offences;
  - (e) an ombudsman service to resolve disputes between consumers and licensees;
  - (f) sanctions for breaches of licensing conditions, including the loss of licences; 20
  - (g) the payment of compensation to consumers;
  - (h) a licensing body to administer the scheme;
  - (i) *membership fees for licensees to cover the costs of administering the scheme, including compensation and the ombudsman service;* 25
  - (j) other matters in accordance with the purposes of the scheme as the Secretary of State sees fit.

- (4) Regulations under this section—
- (a) are to be made by statutory instrument;
  - (b) may make different provision for different purposes;
  - (c) may not be made unless a draft of the statutory instrument containing them has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament. 5

## **2 Extent, commencement and short title**

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales only.
- (2) This Act comes into force on such day or days as the Secretary of State may by regulations made by statutory instrument appoint. 10
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Domestic Building Works (Consumer Protection) Act 2021.



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*Presented by Mark Garnier  
supported by Mr Steve Baker, Anthony Mangnall,  
David Morris, Kelly Tolhurst, Caroline Nokes,  
Jake Berry and Fleur Anderson.*

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