LORDS AMENDMENTS TO THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS (SECURITY) BILL

[The page and line references are to HL Bill 15, the bill as first printed for the Lords]

Clause 3

1 Page 5, leave out lines 13 to 16 and insert—

“(2) Before issuing a code of practice under section 105E the Secretary of State must also lay a draft of the code before Parliament.

(2A) If, within the 40-day period, either House of Parliament resolves not to approve the draft of the code, the code may not be issued.

(2B) If no such resolution is made within that period, the code may be issued.

(2C) If the code is issued, the Secretary of State must publish it.”

2 Page 5, line 18, leave out “(2)” and insert “(2C)”

3 Page 5, line 21, at end insert—

“(5) In this section, the “40-day period”, in relation to a draft of a code, means the period of 40 days beginning with the day on which the draft is laid before Parliament (or, if it is not laid before each House of Parliament on the same day, the later of the 2 days on which it is laid).

(6) For the purposes of calculating the 40-day period, no account is to be taken of any period during which—

(a) Parliament is dissolved or prorogued, or

(b) both Houses are adjourned for more than 4 days.”

After Clause 23

4 Insert the following new Clause—

“Network diversification

(1) The Secretary of State must publish an annual report on the impact of progress of the diversification of the telecommunications supply chain on the security of public electronic communication networks and services.
(2) The report required by subsection (1) must include an assessment of the effect on the security of those networks and services of—
   (a) progress in network diversification set against the most recent telecommunications diversification strategy presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State;
   (b) likely changes in ownership or trading position of existing market players;
   (c) changes to the diversity of the supply chain for network equipment;
   (d) new areas of market consolidation and diversification risk including the cloud computing sector;
   (e) progress made in any aspects of the implementation of the diversification strategy not covered by paragraph (a);
   (f) the public funding which is available for diversification.

(3) The Secretary of State must lay the report before Parliament.

(4) A Minister of the Crown must, not later than two months after the report has been laid before Parliament, move a motion in the House of Commons in relation to the report.”

5 Insert the following new Clause—

“Review of telecommunications companies based in foreign countries

(1) The Communications Act 2003 is amended as follows.

(2) After section 105Z29 insert—

“105Z30 Review of telecommunications companies based in foreign countries

Where a Five Eyes partner bans the operation of a vendor of goods or services to public telecommunications providers in its country on security grounds, the Secretary of State must—
   (a) review the United Kingdom’s security arrangements with that company, and
   (b) decide whether to issue a designated vendor direction or take similar action with regard to the United Kingdom’s arrangements with that company.”
LORDS AMENDMENTS TO THE
Telecommunications (Security) Bill

Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 27th October 2021.