
Committee Stage: Friday 14 January 2022

Professional Qualifications Bill [Lords] (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Professional Qualifications Bill [Lords]. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document. The amendments are arranged in the order in which it is expected they will be decided.

★ New Amendments.

☆ Amendments which will comply with the required notice period at their next appearance.

New Amendments: 2 to 4 and NC1 to NC4

Paul Scully

That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

2

★ Clause 2, page 3, line 2, at end insert—

“(2A) In determining whether the condition in subsection (2) is met, the appropriate national authority must have regard to the availability of professional services in the regulated profession by reference to such factors as appear to the authority to be relevant including, but not limited to—

- (a) the extent of delays in accessing professional services,
- (b) the level of charges for services,
- (c) available workforce data, skills needs or workforce modelling forecasts,
- (d) vacancy levels or recruitment difficulties,
- (e) whether the profession is on the occupation shortage list, and
- (f) the views of the relevant regulator and of professional representative bodies.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires additional information to be taken into account by the appropriate national authority when deciding what regulations are to be made in accordance with the powers conferred under clause 1.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

3

★ Clause 9, page 8, line 12, at end insert—

- “(6) Nothing in this section affects the establishment or operation of a common framework agreement relating to professional qualifications.
- (7) A “common framework agreement” is any agreement between a Minister of the Crown and one or more devolved authorities as to how devolved or transferred matters previously governed by EU law are to be regulated.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment provides additional reassurances to devolved administrations that the Act does not affect the establishment or operation of common framework agreements which are devolved matters.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

4

★ Clause 14, page 11, line 13, at end insert—

- “(6) Subsections (7) to (9) apply where the Secretary of State makes regulations as the appropriate national authority under this Act which extend to the whole of England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (7) Before making such regulations, the Secretary of State must—
- (a) consult such persons as the Secretary of State considers appropriate, and
 - (b) following that consultation, seek the consent of the Scottish Ministers, the Welsh Ministers and a Northern Ireland department.
- (8) If consent to regulations is not given by a relevant authority set out in subsection (7)(b) within the period of one month beginning with the day on which consent is sought from that authority, the Secretary of State may make the regulations without that consent.

- (9) If regulations are made in reliance on subsection (8), the Secretary of State must publish a statement explaining why the Secretary of State decided to make the regulations without the consent of the relevant authority.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment obliges the Secretary of State to consult the devolved administrations where regulations affect a regulator that covers the whole of the United Kingdom.

Paul Scully

1

- ☆ Clause 21, page 15, line 11, leave out subsection (2)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment removes the privilege amendment inserted by the Lords.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

NC1

- ★ To move the following Clause—

“Advice for regulators concerning mutual recognition

The Secretary of State must provide additional support, co-ordination and guidance to regulators under the Act on how to make the most of the provisions in the EU-UK Trade and Co-operation Agreement signed on 30 December 2020.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause provides an obligation on the Secretary of State to provide guidance to regulators concerning mutual recognition under the EU-UK Trade and Co-operation Agreement.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

NC2

- ★ To move the following Clause—

“Skills shortages reporting

In relation to any regulated profession falling under the provisions of this Act, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament an annual report detailing any workforce shortages, including what measures are being taken to resolve the shortages.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause obliges the Secretary of State to produce an annual report setting out which sectors are facing skills shortages and what measures are being taken to resolve the shortages.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

NC3

★ To move the following Clause—

"Protection for existing recognised qualifications

Nothing in this Act prevents, qualifies or otherwise affects the ability of those with existing recognised qualifications to continue practising the profession to which the qualifications relate in the United Kingdom or any part of the United Kingdom."

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause provides additional certainty for workers who already have their professional qualifications recognised in the UK that this legislation will not affect them negatively.

Bill Esterson
Chi Onwurah

NC4

★ To move the following Clause—

"List of current regulators

The Secretary of State must maintain a list of current regulators of regulated professions and must publish that list on the Government's website.

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause requires the Secretary of State to publish and maintain an up-to-date list of regulators on the gov.uk website.

Order of the House

[15 December 2021]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Professional Qualifications Bill [Lords]:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Public Bill Committee.

Proceedings in Public Bill Committee

2. Proceedings in the Public Bill Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 20 January 2022.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading

4. Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on the day on which proceedings on Consideration are commenced.
5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill may be programmed.
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