
Committee Stage: Thursday 10 February 2022

Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill [Lords] (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Animal Welfare (Sentience) 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 Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document.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.

This document should be read alongside the Chair's provisional Selection and Grouping, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

Resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee

The Programming Sub-Committee appointed by the Speaker in respect of the Bill agreed the following Resolution at its meeting on Wednesday 9 February (Standing Order 83C):

That—

1. the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 11.30 am on Thursday 10 February) meet at 2.00 pm on Thursday 10 February;
2. the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Thursday 10 February.

Jo Churchill has given notice of her intention to make a motion in the terms of the Resolution of the Programming Sub-Committee (Standing Order No. 83C).

Jo Churchill

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

Kerry McCarthy 5
Caroline Lucas

Clause 2, page 1, line 13, leave out “adverse”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would change the prescriptive wording of the question clause 2 requires the Animal Sentience Committee (ASC) to consider, which allows that only “adverse effects” should be considered, and would enable the ASC to be free to consider positive effects which may otherwise be overlooked.

Ruth Jones		2
Jim McMahon		
Alex Sobel		
Mary Glendon		
Daniel Zeichner		
Luke Pollard		
Kerry McCarthy	Caroline Lucas	Christian Wakeford
Catherine West	Rosie Duffield	Andrew Gwynne
John McDonnell	Dame Diana Johnson	Neil Coyle
Lloyd Russell-Moyle	Ian Mearns	Fleur Anderson

Clause 2, page 1, line 20, at end insert—

- “(4A) In preparing its reports, the Animal Sentience Committee may consult or request information from government departments and other public bodies.
- (4B) Public bodies and government departments must cooperate with requests from the Animal Sentience Committee under paragraph (4A).”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would require Government departments to respond constructively to requests for information from the Animal Sentience Committee.

Ruth Jones		4
Jim McMahon		
Alex Sobel		
Mary Glendon		
Daniel Zeichner		
Luke Pollard		
Kerry McCarthy	Caroline Lucas	Christian Wakeford
Catherine West	Rosie Duffield	Andrew Gwynne
John McDonnell	Dame Diana Johnson	Neil Coyle
Lloyd Russell-Moyle	Ian Mearns	Fleur Anderson

Clause 2, page 2, line 15, at end insert—

- “(8) The Secretary of State must, within one year of the commencement of this Act, set out a timetabled plan for the extension of Animal Sentience Committee scope to any other public bodies deemed relevant.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to consider extending the Animal Sentience Committee to public bodies.

Ruth Jones

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Jim McMahon

Alex Sobel

Mary Glendon

Daniel Zeichner

Luke Pollard

Kerry McCarthy

Catherine West

John McDonnell

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

Caroline Lucas

Rosie Duffield

Dame Diana Johnson

Ian Mearns

Christian Wakeford

Andrew Gwynne

Neil Coyle

Fleur Anderson

Clause 3, page 2, line 27, at end insert—

- “(4) A Minister of the Crown must make a motion in each House of Parliament in relation to each response to a report from the Animal Sentience Committee laid before Parliament under paragraph (1).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the Minister to give an oral response to Animal Sentience Committee reports, creating an opportunity for parliamentary scrutiny of report recommendations and the Government's response.

Kerry McCarthy

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Caroline Lucas

Clause 5, page 3, line 9, at end insert—

- “(6) For the purposes of section 2 (2) in this Act, “sentient beings” means a being capable of sentience, where “sentience” means the capacity to have feelings, including pain, pleasure, hunger, thirst, warmth, joy, comfort and excitement.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would insert a definition of sentience into the Bill for purposes of reference, based on the definition included in research commissioned by the Department of Environment,

Food and Rural Affairs entitled “Review of the Evidence of Sentience in Cephalopod Molluscs and Decapod Crustaceans”.

Jo Churchill

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Clause 6, page 3, line 16, leave out subsection (5)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment removes the privilege amendment inserted in the Lords.

Ruth Jones

NC1

Jim McMahon

Alex Sobel

Mary Glendon

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Neil Coyle

Fleur Anderson

To move the following Clause—

“Duty to prepare an Animal Sentience Strategy

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare an Animal Sentience Strategy.
- (2) The Strategy under paragraph (1) must set out how Her Majesty’s Government plans to have regard to animal sentience including plans to—
 - (a) respond to Animal Sentience Committee reports,
 - (b) require animal welfare impact assessments, and
 - (c) commission independent research.
- (3) The Strategy must set out policies that the Secretary of State may ask the Animal Sentience Committee to review.
- (4) The Secretary of State must publish an annual statement on progress on the Animal Sentience Strategy.
- (5) An annual statement under subsection (4) must include a summary of changes in policy or implementation that have occurred in response to an Animal Sentience Committee report over the last 12 months.
- (6) A Minister of the Crown must make a motion in each House of Parliament in relation to the annual statement.

- (7) The Secretary of State must publish a revised Animal Sentience Strategy at the start of each parliament.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause would place a duty on the Secretary of State to produce an animal sentience strategy, and to provide an annual update to Parliament on progress against it.

Order of the House

[18 January 2022]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Animal Welfare (Sentience) 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 10 February 2022.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

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 those proceedings 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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