

Regulatory Impact Assessments Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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B I L L

TO

Require a Regulatory Impact Assessment to be published for all primary and secondary legislation introduced by the Government; to make provision for associated sanctions; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the King'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 Requirement to publish regulatory impact assessments

His Majesty's Government must, on or before the appointed day, lay before Parliament a qualifying regulatory impact assessment for—

- (a) any Bill introduced to Parliament by a Minister;
- (b) any draft statutory instrument laid before Parliament by a Minister that may not be made unless it is laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament; and
- (c) any statutory instrument made by a Minister and subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

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2 Sanction

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- (1) If His Majesty's Government fails to comply with the duty under section 1, subsection (2) applies.
- (2) The Minister responsible for the Bill or statutory instrument in question must make a statement to the relevant House—
 - (a) as soon as reasonably practicable, and
 - (b) on every third sitting day until a qualifying regulatory impact assessment has been laid before Parliament.

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3 Interpretation

In this Act—

“the appointed day” means—

- (a) in the case of a Bill, the day it is introduced to Parliament, and
- (b) in the case of a statutory instrument, the day it is laid before Parliament;

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- a “qualifying regulatory impact assessment” is a document which—
- (a) assesses the extent to which the negative effects any regulatory burden of the Bill or statutory instrument are outweighed by the benefits, and
 - (b) conforms with guidance as may be published by the independent body appointed under section 25 of the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 (appointment of body to verify assessments and lists in reports);
- the “relevant House” means—
- (a) for a Bill introduced to the House of Commons or a statutory instrument, the House of Commons, and
 - (b) for a Bill introduced to the House of Lords, the House of Lords.

4 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Bill extends to the whole of the United Kingdom.
- (2) This Bill comes into force at the end of the period of 40 days beginning on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Regulatory Impact Assessments Act 2023.

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Presented by Sir Christopher Chope

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