

Ministerial Interests (Public Appointments) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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B I L L

TO

Require a Minister to make an oral statement to Parliament if a person is appointed to a paid post by them, in whom, or a company in which, that Minister has a personal, political or financial interest.

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 Statements to Parliament

- (1) This section applies if the conditions in subsections (2) and (3) are met.
- (2) The condition in this subsection is that a Minister has appointed a person to a post the remuneration of which is paid out of money provided by Parliament. 5
- (3) The condition in this subsection is the person appointed by the Minister is—
 - (a) a person in relation to whom the Minister has, or at the time appointment was made had, a personal, political or financial interest, or
 - (b) a person who is, or at the time the appointment was made was— 10
 - (i) remunerated by,
 - (ii) the holder of at least 25% of the issued shares of any class of, or
 - (iii) the registered owner of 15a company in which the Minister has, or at the time appointment was made had, a personal, political or financial interest.
- (4) If this section applies, the Minister who has made the appointment must, as soon as reasonably practicable, make an oral statement to the House of Parliament of which they are a member.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, a Minister may make a statement within the period of 30 days before the appointment is made. 20
- (6) In this section—
 - a “personal, political or financial interest” means an interest—
 - (a) declared to the Permanent Secretary under section 7 of the Ministerial Code, 25

- (b) registered in the Register of Members' Financial Interests,
- (c) registered in the Register of Lords' Interests, or
- (d) not so declared or registered but which may reasonably be considered to give rise to a conflict or perception of a conflict of interest.

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2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Ministerial Interests (Public Appointments) Act 2023.

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*Presented by Owen Thompson
supported by*

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