

Hereditary Titles (Female Succession) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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TO

Make provision for the succession of female heirs to hereditary titles; 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 Succession to hereditary peerage not to depend on sex

- (1) In determining the succession to a hereditary peerage, the sex of a person born after this Act comes into force does not give that person, or that person's descendants, precedence over any other person, subject to the exception in subsection (2). 5
- (2) The exception is that, where a son living on the date on which this Act comes into force will succeed at the next succession, subsection (1) does not apply to that succession.

2 Acts of Parliament, entails and trusts settling property

Nothing in this Act shall affect the application of any Act of Parliament, settlement, will, deed, agreement or other instrument that settles land or other property upon a person or a series of persons. 10

3 Interpretation

In this Act, "hereditary peerage" means any hereditary peerage whose holder is eligible to be excepted from section 1 (exclusion of hereditary peers) of the House of Lords Act 1999 by virtue of section 2 (exception from section 1) of that Act, whether or not the holder has been so excepted. 15

4 Application of this Act

- (1) This Act does not affect the succession to the Crown or to any peerages or other titles or dignities or offices and things whatsoever held by His Majesty. 20
- (2) This Act does not affect the succession to the Duchy of Cornwall or the Dukedom of Rothesay and the Principality and Great Stewardship of Scotland

or any other dignities or offices and things whatsoever held by the heir to the Crown.

- (3) This Act does not affect the succession to any hereditary peerage which took place before its commencement.

5 Extent, commencement and short title

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- (1) This Act extends to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on such day as the Lord Chancellor may by regulations appoint.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Hereditary Titles (Female Succession) Act 2024.

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*Presented by Harriett Baldwin
supported by Ms Harriet Harman, Nickie Aiken,
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