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Report Stage: Friday 19 April 2024

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## Pet Abduction Bill, As Amended (Amendment Paper)

This document lists all amendments tabled to the Pet Abduction Bill. Any withdrawn amendments are listed at the end of the document.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 Speaker's provisional selection and grouping, which sets out the order in which the amendments will be debated.

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Sir Christopher Chope

NC1

To move the following Clause—

**“Guidance**

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish guidance on the enforcement of the provisions of this Act.
- (2) Before issuing guidance under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must consult the Crown Prosecution Service.”

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Sir Christopher Chope

1

Clause 1, page 1, line 2, after “if” insert “without lawful authority or a reasonable excuse”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment seeks to ensure that an offence is only committed if the acts complained of are shown to have been made without lawful authority or a reasonable excuse, so that it is not necessary for the person alleged to have committed the offence to prove their innocence.

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Sir Christopher Chope

2

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, after “to” insert “permanently”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment seeks to ensure that only acts where the dog is permanently removed from lawful control would fall under the offence.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

3

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, leave out "any person" and insert "its keeper"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment seeks to ensure that only where a dog is removed from the lawful control of its registered keeper falls under the offence, rather than removal from any person.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

4

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, after "to" insert "permanently"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment seeks to ensure that only acts where the dog is detained so as to permanently keep it would fall under the offence.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

5

Clause 1, page 1, line 5, leave out from "of" to end of line 6 and insert "its keeper"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment seeks to ensure that only where a dog is detained so as to keep it from its registered keeper falls under the offence.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

6

Clause 1, page 1, leave out lines 21 to 23

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 1.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

7

Clause 1, page 2, line 16, leave out "(3)"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 6.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

8

Clause 1, page 2, line 30, at end insert—

“(aa) references to a dog are only to a dog which—

- (i) has been implanted with a microchip pursuant to the Microchipping of Cats and Dogs (England) Regulations 2023; or
- (ii) has been certified as exempt from such an implant under those Regulations”

**Member's explanatory statement**

The above Regulations provide for the compulsory microchipping of dogs and the recording of each dog's identity and its keeper's contact details on a database. This amendment ensures that the offence of dog abduction can only be made in respect of dogs which have been microchipped (or are certified as exempt) in accordance with those Regulations and will thereby incentivise keepers to comply with the rules about microchipping.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

9

Clause 1, page 2, line 34, at end insert—

“(aa) “keeper” has the meaning given to it under the Microchipping of Cats and Dogs (England) Regulations 2023”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment ensures that “keeper” is intended to have the same meaning as under the specified Regulations.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

10

Page 2, line 39, leave out Clause 2

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment removes the offence of cat abduction.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

11

Clause 3, page 3, line 36, leave out “or 2”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

12

Clause 3, page 4, line 5, leave out “or 2”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

13

Clause 3, page 4, line 8, leave out "or 2(5)"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

14

Clause 4, page 4, line 38, leave out "or 2"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

15

Clause 6, page 5, line 6, leave out "and 2"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Anna Firth**

19

Clause 6, page 5, line 6, leave out "come into force in relation to England" and insert ", so far as they extend to England and Wales, come into force"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This is a technical amendment to ensure that it is clear how the commencement of clauses 1 and 2 operates in so far as those clauses extend to England and Wales (rather than just in relation to England).

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

21

Clause 6, page 5, line 7, at end insert "provided that the Secretary of State has fulfilled the requirement to publish the guidance required by section [Guidance]"

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**Sir Christopher Chope**

16

Clause 6, page 5, line 11, leave out "and 2"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on the removal of clause 2 from the Bill.

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**Anna Firth****20**

Clause 6, page 5, line 11, leave out "in relation" and insert "so far as they extend"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This is a technical amendment to ensure that the commencement of clauses 1 and 2 is dealt with in the same way throughout clause 6.

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## Withdrawn Amendments

The following amendments were withdrawn on 15 April 2024:

17 and 18