

Covid-19 Vaccine Damage Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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B I L L

TO

Require the Secretary of State to establish an independent review of disablement caused by Covid-19 vaccinations and the adequacy of the compensation offered to persons so disabled; 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 Independent review of Covid-19 vaccine damage

- (1) The Secretary of State must, before the end of the period of 30 days beginning with the day on which this Act is passed, appoint a current or former High Court judge to lead an independent review of disablement caused by Covid-19 vaccinations administered in the United Kingdom and the adequacy of the compensation offered to persons so disabled. 5
- (2) The review must consider—
 - (a) the rates and extent of disablement caused by each type of Covid-19 vaccination offered in the United Kingdom,
 - (b) the effectiveness of Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency monitoring of such side effects, and National Health Service and Government responses to such monitoring, 10
 - (c) the adequacy of compensation offered to persons so disabled, including—
 - (i) the criteria for eligibility for compensation; 15
 - (ii) the impact of time limits under the Limitation Act 1980 on claims for compensation, and whether such limits should be increased;
 - (iii) the potential merits of establishing a scheme to provide such compensation without the need to establish fault and the appropriate terms for such a scheme; and 20
 - (d) the efficacy of the Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979 and regulations made under it, including in particular the 60% disablement threshold under section 1(4) of that Act.
- (3) The review must assess the costs and benefits of providing compensation to all persons who have been disabled by a Covid-19 vaccination administered in the United Kingdom without the need to establish fault. 25

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- (4) In making that assessment, the review must have regard to the effects of providing such compensation on public confidence in vaccination programmes in the United Kingdom.
- (5) The person appointed under subsection (1) must, before the end of the period of 90 days beginning with the day on which they are appointed— 5
- (a) prepare a report on the review, and
 - (b) provide that report to the Secretary of State.
- (6) The report may make recommendations for legislative or policy change.
- (7) The Secretary of State must— 10
- (a) as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt, lay before Parliament the report provided under subsection (5), and
 - (b) before the end of the period of 30 days beginning with the day on which the report is laid under paragraph (a), lay before Parliament the Government’s response to the findings and any recommendations of that report under subsection (6). 15

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 Covid-19 Vaccine Damage Act 2024.

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*Presented by Sir Christopher Chope
supported by Sir Jeremy Wright.*

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