

Political Donations Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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TO

Make provision about a cap on political donations; to make provision for a review to recommend the level at which such a cap should be set and to consider the impact of such a cap; to make provision about political donations made by foreign nationals through companies; 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 Review of cap on political donations

- (1) Within one month of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must appoint an independent person to lead a review to consider—
 - (a) the appropriate level for the setting of a cap on political donations, and
 - (b) the impact of such a cap.
- (2) The Secretary of State may appoint such other persons as they consider appropriate to assist in the carrying out of the review.
- (3) Within six months of their appointment under subsection (1), the independent person must prepare a report on the review and provide a copy of that report to the Secretary of State.
- (4) The report prepared under subsection (3) must—
 - (a) recommend the level at which a cap on political donations should be set, and
 - (b) contain an assessment of the impact of such a cap.
- (5) The Secretary of State must lay the report before Parliament as soon as is practicable after receiving it.

2 Cap on political donations

- (1) The Secretary of State must by regulations made by statutory instrument make provision for a cap on political donations, set at the level recommended by the review carried out under section 1 of this Act.
- (2) Regulations under this section may—

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- (a) amend any enactment passed or made before this Act or in the same Session,
 - (b) make transitional or saving provision.
 - (3) Regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the statutory instrument containing them has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, each House of Parliament. 5
 - (4) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a draft of a statutory instrument containing regulations under this section within three months of receiving the report of the review carried out under section 1 of this Act.
- 3 Political donations made by foreign nationals through companies** 10
- (1) Within three months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must prepare and publish a plan to implement measures to prohibit and prevent the making of political donations by foreign nationals resident outside the United Kingdom through companies based in the United Kingdom.
 - (2) Proposals under this section must include— 15
 - (a) measures relating to donations made through companies owned by foreign nationals resident outside the United Kingdom,
 - (b) measures to restrict donations through companies to those made from profits generated in the United Kingdom, and
 - (c) such other measures as the Secretary of State considers necessary to prevent the making of political donations by foreign nationals resident outside the United Kingdom through companies based in the United Kingdom. 20
 - (3) The plan published under subsection (1) must include a timetable for implementation. 25
- 4 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 Political Donations Act 2025.

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