

Bus Services Bill [HL]

AMENDMENT
TO BE MOVED
IN COMMITTEE

Clause 14

LORD KENNEDY OF SOUTHWARK
BARONESS JONES OF WHITCHURCH

Page 66, line 5, at end insert –

“(5) After section 6I (inserted by subsection (4)) insert –

“6J Community bus routes

- (1) Traffic Commissioners must keep a list of bus routes in their area which are of community value.
- (2) For the purpose of this section, a bus route of community value is one that has been designated by the traffic commissioner as furthering the social well-being or social interests of the local community.
- (3) Bus routes may only be designated by a traffic commissioner as being of community value in response to a community nomination.
- (4) A community nomination must be made by a community group which is based in, or has a strong connection with, an area through which the bus route passes, and on which community the bus route has a direct social impact.
- (5) A community group may be a local or parish council, a voluntary or community body with a local connection, a bus user group, a group formed for the specific purpose of maintaining the bus route, a church or other religious group, or a parent teacher group associated with a particular school or schools.
- (6) The traffic commissioner must consider the community nomination, and if –
 - (a) the nomination is successful, the commissioner must notify the relevant parties of this decision in writing; or
 - (b) the nomination is unsuccessful, the commissioner must notify the relevant parties of this decision in writing and give reasons why the decision was made.
- (7) A six month moratorium must be placed on the closure of any bus route which is designated as being of community value, in order for the community to –

Clause 14 - *continued*

- (a) work with relevant authorities to find an alternative operator;
 - (b) set up a community transport group in order to run the service;
or
 - (c) partner with an existing not for profit operator to run the route.
- (8) The community may apply to the Secretary of State for financial assistance, training or advice during the moratorium in order to achieve any of the aims set out in subsection (7).”

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16 June 2016
