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TO

Amend the Civil Partnership Act 2004 to include sibling couples.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’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 Categories of civil partners to include sibling couples

- (1) The Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 1(1) (civil partnership), after “relationship” insert “between two people considered to be a sibling couple or”.
- (3) After section 1, insert— 5
“1A Sibling couples
 - (1) Two persons who are considered to be siblings, both of whom are aged over thirty years, are eligible to register as civil partners if they have lived together for a continuous period of twelve years immediately prior to the date of registration. 10
 - (2) In this Act, “sibling” means a brother, sister, half-brother or half-sister.”
- (4) In section 3 (eligibility), at the beginning of subsection (1)(a) and of subsection (1)(d) insert “subject to section 1A (sibling couples).”.
- (5) At the end of section 36(2)(g) (regulations and orders), insert— 15
“(h) with respect to determining whether two people have lived together for the period of twelve years specified in section 1A (sibling couples).”.
- (6) In section 86 (eligibility), at the beginning of subsection (1)(a) and of subsection (1)(b) insert “subject to section 1A (sibling couples).”.
- (7) In section 126 (regulations), after subsection (2) insert— 20
“(2A) Regulations made under this section may set out the criteria for determining whether two people have lived together for the period of 12 years specified in section 1A (sibling couples).”.

- (8) In section 138 (eligibility), at the beginning of subsection (1)(a) and of subsection (1)(d), insert “subject to section 1A (sibling couples)”.
- (9) In section 159(1) (regulations), at the end insert “including with respect to determining whether two people have lived together for the period of twelve years specified in section 1A (sibling couples).”

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2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of the period of two months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (Amendment) (Sibling Couples) Act 2017.

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Civil Partnership Act 2004 (Amendment) (Sibling Couples) Bill [HL]

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To amend the Civil Partnership Act 2004 to include sibling couples.

Lord Lexden

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