

A  
**B I L L**

TO

Make provision concerning referendums within the United Kingdom on constitutional or parliamentary arrangements.

**B**E 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 Referendums criteria**

- (1) A proposition to change constitutional or parliamentary arrangements that is the subject of a referendum in the United Kingdom is deemed to be disagreed to (notwithstanding the form in which the question appears on ballot papers) unless the following criteria are met. 5
- (2) Before the referendum is held—
  - (a) each House of Parliament passes a motion that the proposition be agreed to, and
  - (b) if in either House the motion is passed on a division, the number of members who vote in favour of the motion is equal to or greater than two thirds of the number of those who vote. 10
- (3) The number of those who vote in the referendum is equal to or greater than 55% of all those on the current electoral register.
- (4) The number of those who vote in favour of the proposition is equal to or greater than 60% of those who vote in the referendum. 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 Referendums Criteria Act 2020.

# Referendums Criteria Bill [HL]

---

---

A

# B I L L

To make provision concerning referendums within the United Kingdom on constitutional or parliamentary arrangements.

*Lord Cormack*

---

*Ordered to be Printed, 8th January 2020*

---

© Parliamentary copyright House of Lords 2020

*This publication may be reproduced under the terms of the Open Parliament Licence, which is published at [www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright](http://www.parliament.uk/site-information/copyright)*

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS