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**B I L L**

TO

Provide for the functions exercised by the Northern Ireland Department of Health to be exercised by the Secretary of State in the absence of a Northern Ireland Executive.

**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 Functions of the Northern Ireland Department of Health**

- (1) Any function conferred on the Northern Ireland Department of Health to make regulations or an order, including under—
- (a) the Northern Ireland Act 1998, and
  - (b) the Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/283 (N.I.1))
- must be exercised by the Secretary of State rather than by the Northern Ireland Department of Health. 5
- (2) Any other statutory function relating to the provision of primary healthcare in Northern Ireland may be exercised by the Secretary of State (as well as by the Northern Ireland department otherwise entitled to exercise the function). 10

**2 Extent, commencement and short title**

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) Section 1 of this Act comes into force on the day on which the Northern Ireland Executive ceases to function other than through—
- (a) any dissolution for the purpose of holding an election for the Northern Ireland Assembly under section 31 or 32 of that Act; or 15
  - (b) the 14-day period for the appointment of the First Minister and deputy First Minister under section 16A of that Act; or
  - (c) the 7-day period to fill a vacancy for the office of First Minister or Deputy First Minister under section 16B of that Act. 20
- (3) This section comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.

- (4) This Act expires at the end of the day on which the Northern Ireland Executive is re-established.
- (5) This Act may be cited as the Department of Health (Northern Ireland) Act 2020.



# Department of Health (Northern Ireland) Bill [HL]

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To provide for the functions exercised by the Northern Ireland Department of Health to be exercised by the Secretary of State in the absence of a Northern Ireland Executive.

*Lord Empey*

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