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Establish a licensing regime in the event of the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment; to establish liability for the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment and for damage caused thereby; and for connected purposes.

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 Release of GMOs into the environment

- (1) No genetically modified organism (“GMO”) shall be released into the environment until prescribed measures to prevent the presence of GMOs in other products or crops have been approved.
- (2) Prescribed measures under subsection (1) shall include measures to determine which person or persons shall be liable for any harm caused by the presence of GMOs. 5
- (3) In this section “prescribed” means prescribed by regulations made—
 - (a) in relation to England, by the Secretary of State;
 - (b) in relation to Northern Ireland, by Northern Ireland Ministers; 10
 - (c) in relation to Scotland, by Scottish Ministers;
 - (d) in relation to Wales, by the National Assembly for Wales.
- (4) Regulations made under this section shall not come into effect unless—
 - (a) in the case of regulations made by the Secretary of State, a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament, 15
 - (b) in the case of regulations made by the Northern Ireland Ministers, a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the Northern Ireland Assembly; and
 - (c) in the case of regulations made by the Scottish Ministers, a draft of the regulations has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, the Scottish Parliament. 20

- (5) Before the Secretary of State lays draft regulations before each House of Parliament under this section he must lay before each House a document outlining his proposals in respect of the regulations.
- (6) The Secretary of State shall not lay draft regulations before each House of Parliament under this section unless the document referred to in subsection (5) is approved by a Resolution of each House of Parliament.

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2 Short title

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Genetically Modified Organisms Act 2004.

Genetically Modified Organisms Bill

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