

Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill

[AS AMENDED IN PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE]

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B I L L

[AS AMENDED IN PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE]

TO

Amend the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to exempt from its provisions the House of Commons and House of Lords and correspondence between Members of Parliament and public authorities.

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 Exemption of House of Commons and House of Lords

- (1) The Freedom of Information Act 2000 (c. 36) is amended as follows.
- (2) In Part 1 of Schedule 1 (public authorities) omit paragraphs 2 and 3 (which relate to the House of Commons and the House of Lords).
- (3) After section 34 insert— 5
“34A Communications with members of House of Commons
 - (1) Information is exempt information if it is held only by virtue of being contained in any communication between a member of the House of Commons, acting in his capacity as such, and a public authority.
 - (2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise in relation to information which is (or if it were held by the public authority to which the request is made would be) exempt information by virtue of subsection (1).” 10
- (4) In section 63 (removal of exemptions: historical records generally), in subsection (1), after “33,” insert “34A,”.
- (5) Omit the following— 15
 - (a) section 2(3)(e),
 - (b) section 36(5)(d) and (e) and (7), and
 - (c) in section 81(4), the words “on behalf of either House of Parliament or”.

2 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Freedom of Information (Amendment) Act 2007.
- (2) This Act comes into force at the end of a period of two months beginning with the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act does not apply in relation to any request for information which is made to a public authority before the Act comes into force. 5
- (4) In subsection (3) “request for information” and “public authority” have the same meaning as in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- (5) This Act extends to Northern Ireland.

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To amend the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to exempt from its provisions the House of Commons and House of Lords and correspondence between Members of Parliament and public authorities.

Presented by David Maclean.

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be Printed, 7th February 2007.*

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