

### 3.1. European Union (Amendment) Bill 2014 – Clauses considered

Mr Watterson to move.

**The Speaker:** Item 3 on the Order Paper, Bills for Consideration of Clauses. The first of the Bills is the European Union (Amendment) Bill. I call on the mover, Mr Watterson.

**Mr Watterson:** Mr Speaker, clause 1 simply gives the Bill its short title, and I beg to move that it stands part of the Bill.

**The Speaker:** Mr Quirk.

**Mr Quirk:** I beg to second, Mr Speaker, and reserve my remarks.

**The Speaker:** I put the question that clause 1 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.  
Clause 2, please.

**Mr Watterson:** Mr Speaker, clause 2 amends the European Communities (Isle of Man) Act 1973 to add the Croatia Accession Treaty and also the Irish Protocol to the list of the EU Treaties in section 1 of the Act. This clause also establishes a power for the Council of Ministers to make such straightforward changes in future by order, subject to the approval of Tynwald. However, as I mentioned at Second Reading, any substantive change to the Island's Protocol 3 relationship with the EU would still require amending an Act of Tynwald.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move that clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

**The Speaker:** Mr Quirk.

**Mr Quirk:** I beg to second, sir, and reserve my remarks.

**The Speaker:** I put the question that clause 2 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, say aye; against no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.  
Clause 3.

**Mr Watterson:** Mr Speaker, the main effect of clause 3 is to change the Tynwald procedure for most orders under section 2A of the 1973 Act to the normal approval procedure. As Hon. Members are aware, with the exception of orders concerning the application of EU sanctions, an order under section 2A of the 1973 Act currently has to be laid before Tynwald in draft at one sitting and exactly the same draft document must be laid by the Court at another sitting and moved for approval before it can be made.

The current procedures are unnecessarily bureaucratic and a waste of paper. It is not consistent with some other Acts of Tynwald that can apply pieces of EU legislation to the Island. Hon. Members will know that, except for the application of EU sanctions, the power in section 2A of the 1973 Act is not used very often and there is no intention that it should be used more frequently if the Tynwald procedure is changed. It will only be used when it is the most practical and appropriate course of action and obviously any such orders will still require the approval of Tynwald to have effect.

Mr Speaker, this clause also makes some amendments in respect of the text of the EU legislation as modified in its application to the Island, which must be attached to an order made under section 2A of the 1973 Act. The amendments provide for legal certainty and for updates to

the attachment where part of a piece of European Union legislation is applied to the Island as amended by the European Union from time to time, as is the case for example with the lists of persons and bodies that are subject to EU sanctions measures.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move that clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

**The Speaker:** Mr Quirk

**Mr Quirk:** I beg to second, sir.

**The Speaker:** I put the question that clause 3 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, say aye; against no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Finally, clause 4.

**Mr Watterson:** Mr Speaker, clause 4 repeals the Act after it has been promulgated, but the repeal does not affect the continuing operation of the amendments that are made to the 1973 Act by clauses 2 and 3. As Hon. Members will be aware, this is now standard drafting practice for Acts which only amend other Acts of Tynwald to remove unnecessary clutter from the Island's statute book.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move that clause 4 stands part of the Bill.

**The Speaker:** Mr Quirk.

**Mr Quirk:** I beg to second, sir.

**The Speaker:** I put the question that clause 4 do stand part of the Bill Those in favour, say aye; against no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Thank you, Hon. Members.