

Consideration of clauses

The Speaker: I call on Mr Gawne.

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

I would firstly like to thank Members for agreeing to progress this matter and suspending Standing Orders to do so. I would also like to thank those Members who have raised any concerns with me outside of this sitting.

Clause 1(1) provides for the short title and expiry of the resultant Act. The Act has no commencement date specified in it, and so it will come into operation on the day on which it is passed.

Subsection (2) provides for the Act to expire at midnight on 31st May 2015.

Loayreyder, I beg to move that clause 1 do stand part of the Bill.

The Speaker: Mr Ronan.

Mr Ronan: I beg to second, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: Hon. Member, Mr Cretney.

Mr Cretney: I am obviously supportive of this. I just wonder if the Hon. Member could indicate whether any consideration was given as to not having a sunset clause in this, but allowing this to be something which is in place to facilitate economic development into the future?

The Speaker: The mover to reply. Mr Gawne.

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

I certainly have given this consideration. Indeed, the Department, both in my time and in my predecessor's time, has given this consideration. There is a more detailed Road Races (Amendment) Bill, which the Department is progressing and it is getting quite close to being ready to come back to this House. Hon. Members will then have more time to fully consider the implications of that, but for this specific instance we just needed to ensure that we either give support or do not give support for this relatively rare circumstance.

The Speaker: I put the motion 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 Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

This clause permits the making of a Road Racing Order to authorise racing to take place on the Billown Circuit on Sunday, 31st May 2015, despite the restrictions on Sunday racing contained in section 1(2) of the Road Races Act 1982.

Those restrictions currently mean that a Road Race Order cannot authorise road racing on a Sunday, except in certain circumstances. Those circumstances allow a Road Race Order to authorise the use of a road for races on one Sunday only during the TT and Manx Grand Prix.

However, with regard to racing at the Billown Circuit, a Road Race Order may only authorise Sunday racing on the Sunday following the conclusion of the TT Races, and only then in the event that the racing schedule for the Saturday at the Billown has been postponed.

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

The Speaker: Mr Ronan.

Mr Ronan: Thank you, Mr Speaker.
I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The Speaker: Hon. Member, Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson: Yes, I have been supportive of what the Minister is trying to do today, but can he give his assurance that the road closure will not actually come into effect until one o'clock on the Sunday?

The Speaker: Mr Gawne to reply.

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.
Yes, I can give that assurance.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I put the motion that clause 2 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Third Reading approved

The Hon. Member for Rushen (Mr Gawne) to move:

That the Road Races (Temporary Modification) Bill 2014 be now read a third time.

The Speaker: Mr Gawne to move the Third Reading.

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

Just to thank Hon. Members for giving me the support – the unusual support – in suspending Standing Orders to take all the readings in one sitting. I do appreciate that this is an usual thing to do. What I had not perhaps appreciated was the urgency with which the organiser needed this legislation in place. I only really very recently became aware of the organiser's concerns.

Whilst we still have legislative time to progress this Bill and get it into power and into being by the actual date required, I think the urgency really for the organiser is in terms of advertising the event and in terms of knowing that the event can actually proceed. If we delayed, or if we followed the normal process, I think we would have got a little bit too close to the wire for the organiser.

So I do thank Hon. Members for their support today and I beg to move.

The Speaker: Mr Ronan.

Mr Ronan: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Just at this point I would also like to thank this Hon. House for allowing this Bill to come forward. It is very important to the club that they make their plans for the forthcoming season and I appreciate that it is a rarity, this coming through. But, again, I would like to thank and I would also like to second.

The Speaker: Mr Cretney.

Mr Cretney: Just to support again, if I may, Mr Speaker, but also I think the practical issue here is that they need to get the regulations for the event out to potential competitors, (**A Member:** Hear, hear.) and so that is the most important aspect as far as the club is concerned.

The Speaker: Mr Gawne, do you wish to reply?

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

Yes, just to confirm the comments of the Hon. Member for Douglas South, and again to thank Hon. Members.

I beg to move the Bill be read a third time.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I put the question that the Bill be read for the third time. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Thank you, Hon. Members.