

**Representation the People (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2015 –
Consideration of clauses**

The President: We move now to clauses.

Before we do, Hon. Members you have been notified of the intention of Her Majesty's Acting Attorney General to move two amendments to the Bill. I intend to take the amendment to the long title after we have considered all the clauses in case there are any more amendments which may affect it.

So we move then to clause 1. The Hon. Member, Mr Cretney.

Mr Cretney: Thank you.

Clause 1 provides a short title of the resulting Act. In the absence of a provision enabling the making of an Appointed Day Order, the Act will come into operation automatically on the day on which Royal Assent is announced at Tynwald.

I beg to move that clause 1 stands part of the Bill.

Mr Anderson: I beg to second, Madam President.

The President: The motion is 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.

Mr Cretney: Thank you.

Clause 2 provides that the resulting Act will expire on the first anniversary of the 2016 General Election, but the expiry date will not affect the continuing effect on the provisions of sections 4 and 5.

I beg to move that clause 2 stands part of the Bill's.

The President: Hon. Member, Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson: I beg to second and reserve my remarks, Madam President.

The President: The Hon. Acting Attorney General.

The Acting Attorney General: Yes, thank you, Madam President.

I would beg to move the amendment standing in my name to clause 2, that after line 10, the insert, 'the amendment effected by section 5' should be deleted.

I move:

In clause 2 as amended by the Keys omit:

'(c) the amendment effected by section 5(1);'

In consequence of this amendment, adjust the numbering of the following paragraph of clause 2(1).

The President: Do we have a seconder?

Mr Crookall: I am happy to second that, Madam President.

The President: As no other Member wishes to speak, I will first put to you the amendment standing in the name of the learned Acting Attorney General. Those in favour of the amendment, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

The amendment therefore carries.

I now put to you the clause as amended. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Clause 3.

Mr Cretney: Thank you.

Clause 3 defines the 1995 Act to mean the Representation of the People Act 1995.

I beg to move that clause 3 stands part of the Bill.

The President: Hon. Member, Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson: Madam President, I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The President: The motion is that clause 3 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Clause 4.

Mr Cretney: Thank you.

Clause 4 renames the constituency of 'Douglas West' as 'Douglas South' and consequently amends section 11(a) of the 1995 Act.

I beg leave to move that clause 4 stands part of the Bill.

The President: The Hon. Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson: Madam President. I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The President: The Hon. Member, Mr Turner.

Mr Turner: Thank you, Madam President.

This really is the most bizarre situation isn't it? When does Douglas West cease to become west and west become south? I know we have changes in the magnetic pole from time to time, but it is unfortunate this was not sorted out at the time.

Clearly the Member moving this is the former MHK for South Douglas and there is a lot of feeling about this and we are changing it. So I am happy to support it.

The President: I do not know whether you wish to reply, sir.

Mr Cretney: Well, I am just happy that the Hon. Member is happy to support it.

The President: That he is happy. *(Laughter)*

A Member: We are all happy.

The President: The motion is that clause 4 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

Clause 5.

Mr Cretney: Yes, clause 5 makes transitional and supplemental provision in connection with the renaming of the constituency so as to provide a seamless transition in relation to the name of the constituency and the electoral process for the 2016 General Election so far as it affects the constituency.

Clause 5(3) provides that no new map or designation of electoral wards is required for the constituency by virtue only of its renaming.

I beg to move that clause 5 stands part of the Bill.

The President: Hon. Member, Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson: Madam President, I beg to second and reserve my remarks.

The President: The motion is that clause 5 do stand part of the Bill. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

There have been no surprise amendments, so we will revert now to the consideration of the amendment to the long title. I call on the Learned Acting Attorney General.

The Acting Attorney General: Thank you, Madam President.

When this Bill was before the House of Keys, they took steps on the motion of Mr Watterson to rename the Bill or to amend its long title by adding – and I will read it in full:

A Bill to rename Douglas West constituency and make provision about the disclosure of election candidates' interests.

The provision relating to disclosure of election candidates' interests was the subject of an amendment which the Minister Watterson moved, which failed. So, in those circumstances, I would invite you to agree to an amendment to the long title to substitute those words which I have just read and just simply name it, 'a Bill to rename Douglas West constituency'.

I so move:

Amendment to the long title

In the long title as amended by the Keys, for 'constituency, and to make provision about the disclosure of election candidate's interests' substitute 'constituency'.

The President: A seconder, please.

Mr Crookall: I am happy to second, Madam President.

The President: The motion is that the long title be amended, as printed. Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.

That concludes consideration of the Second Reading and clauses stage.