Response ID ANON-KCYR-AWB4-7

Submitted to Assembly Members (Remuneration Board) Bill - Call for Evidence Submitted on 2025-03-19 16:17:18



Questions Relating to Relevant Clauses in the Bill

Clause 1

The "Remuneration Board" better reflects the purpose of the body

Select the option which best reflects your view. Listed are Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Clause 2

It is appropriate for the determination of Assembly members' salaries and pensions to be determined by an independent panel/board rather than by the Assembly Commission.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

It is appropriate for the determination of adequate resources required by Members for the exercise of their functions to be determined by the Assembly Commission rather than by an independent panel/board.

Select the option which best reflects your view. Listed are Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Clause 3

The independent panel/board should have regard to the salaries payable to members of other legislatures when making determinations as to the salaries payable to Members of the Assembly

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Other legislatures are operating in entirely different contexts, and in areas where the cost of living - and indeed the standard of living - that apply to the general population are not comparable with those applying in Northern Ireland. Furthermore, because Northern Ireland is still obliged to follow rules imposed by Brussels, the Stormont Assembly in practice does not take responsibility for whole swathes of legislation connected with trade, phytosanitary and veterinary etc. matters

The legislatures listed above are the appropriate legislatures to consider when making such determinations

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

As the legislature in Dublin functions outside of the United Kingdom, one could ask why it should be considered appropriate as a comparator when other foreign legislatures are excluded.

Clause 4

The temporary filling of vacant positions on the board/panel should be permitted, pending the appointment of replacements.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Clause 5

Former Members of the Assembly should be permitted to sit on the panel/board.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Strongly Disagree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

This has the potential for a panel member to influence a proposal to increase his/her own pension. It also has the appearance of a 'cosy' arrangement whereby a former MLA could ensure a financial benefit to his/her former 'buddies' in the Assembly.

Clause 6

It is appropriate for determinations to be made at least 6 months before the date of the poll for the Assembly elections.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Provision should be made to require determinations to be published in draft and made the subject of consultation.

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Consultation should be undertaken before the Board issues determinations more than once in respect of an Assembly, or otherwise than in accordance with the timing rules set out in subsection (2).

Choose option that best reflects your views. List is Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree or Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree: Agree

Enter any comments you have relating to this question:

Additional Comments and Observations

Additional Comments and Observations (including on Clauses 7 to 11)

Enter any additional comments or observations you have on the Bill, including on Clauses 7 to 11.: