



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:

The independent financial review panel got it wrong on a number of issues. The ridiculous rule about not having a phone number or an email address on an MLA office sign is an obvious example so we support this suggestion.

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:

MLAs do not deserve a pay rise to put them in line with Members of other Parliaments and assemblies because, uniquely, the Northern Ireland Assembly decided that there are vast areas of law and policy that it does not want to have any say over. If the Assembly is so pompous as to believe that it is just as important and competent as the legislatures listed in clause 3 of the Bill, why did the majority of Members vote to give away lawmaking powers to Brussels, where no one from Northern Ireland has any say in the laws that govern two thirds of our economy? Unless or until MLAs have the self-respect to reclaim those laws, they should not be treated like members of any other legislature.

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:

Quite apart from the points made above why would a legislature in Northern Ireland concern itself with what members of foreign legislatures in the Irish Republic are paid?

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 represents a clear conflict of interest on two fronts. First, one would assume that a former Member will have maintained some sort of relationship with Members, who would stand to benefit financially from the decisions of the board. Secondly, as a former Member, he or she would benefit from pension determinations. Such a situation cannot be allowed to go unchallenged. There were good reasons why former MLAs were excluded from the original panel. Those reasons remain valid. It is noteworthy that the previous independent financial review panel had just three members. If, as the Bill anticipates, one of those members is a former MLA, that is a sizeable chunk of its membership.

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.: