

Response ID ANON-8A9X-7X3X-4

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-13 23:24:59

Clause 1: Removal of flags or emblems in the public interest

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

No

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Because I don't trust that the clause will be administered fairly so some flags and emblems will be removed and some won't. This is highly likely to be used as an agenda against one side of the Northern Ireland community. Which could lead to unnecessary antagonism and trouble. It's really simple, everyone can display flags and emblems or no one can. The same rule applied against all communities, whether it be religious, cultural, sexual orientation etc. Cherry picking is unfair.

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

No

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Who decides what a sensitive area is and can areas be designated as sensitive and therefore if clause 1 is implemented then again one side might feel under threat. Every country is allowed to fly their own flag. In fact most countries display their flag in public spaces with pride. While NI is different in its identity and everyone is currently allowed to choose how they see themselves these new clauses run the risk of alienating certain sections of the community and that can't be allowed.

Clause 3: Procedure for / notification of, or giving views on, flags or emblems

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

No

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Same as I answered to clause 1, don't cherry pick who can and can't display flags and emblems. Everyone can or everyone can't. Simple and fair and easier to implement. Not to mention we do not need to spend money, that is much much needed elsewhere in the country, on committees and anything that will cost money to to implement, monitor and make decisions. I'd personally prefer someone be offended by a flag or emblem so the money can be spent on more special needs school provision, or shorter waiting lists for hospitals, or the many many pot holes in the roads get fixed, youth provision, mental health provision, help with housing or any of the other massively needed provisions that are currently lacking.

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

Unsure

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It all seems like a massive waste of money. Let people stand under whatever colours they want to and try reprofiling the budget that would have been used to something people will actually benefit from. While you're at it try doing the same with street signs. So much money spent when people can't get a GP appointment and special needs children can't find a school. It's a disgrace.

Clause 5: Offence of obstructing the Department in removal of flag or emblem

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

Unsure

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I don't know what the fine level is so I can't comment on it.

Clause 6: Request for assistance from police

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

Unsure

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The police should always be involved if there is a potential breach of the peace, that's a normal society. But if the Bill isn't implemented then there will be no need for removal, no need for police and no risk to peace.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Unsure

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

Unsure

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible: