

Response ID ANON-8K6A-5D7G-H

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-19 11:39:57

Introduction

1 Confirmation of having read the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee's Privacy Notice.

I confirm that I have read the privacy notice.

2 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

4 If you are providing a submission on behalf of an organisation or business, please state its name.

Organisation:

5 The Committee for Infrastructure has agreed to publish all responses as part of the survey results. If you would like to have your survey results anonymised and for us not to publish your name or organisation, please indicate so here.

I would like my views to be anonymous and understand that my name and organisation details will be withheld, along with any identifiers in the response, but my views will still be published.

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:

I think this is left too open to interpretation. I believe that the union jack, and flag of Ulster are expressions of pride in being a member of the u.k and living in Northern Ireland. I don't believe anyone living here in the U.K should be offended by them, if they are perhaps they could move to another country who's flag they do agree with. This is too much over reach if communities want to display the flags they should not be removed, as this will cause more tension.

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:

Again in local areas where the flags are part of the expression of that community, removing them will cause tension and disruption

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:

This will be totally abused. The minority perhaps even those not native to our country can disagree without understanding our histories and cultures. I do not see how this can be fair. Who decides? By what criteria? It is too subjective . This will only be used to stoke tensions.

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

No

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

This is pure over reach. Equality and human rights organisations or " stake holders" can stoke tension, can be biased. A country should be able to fly the flag of their country without govt over sight. Who is offended by the flag of the country they have been born into ,or choose to live in? This whole idea is over reach, is not wanted/ needed. It only helps to provoke resentment, ignore people's right to enjoy their right to cultural expression. A code of practice needs to be opened up to community leaders and politicians. I really believe this whole idea will cause resentment especially around parades season. It will cause constant tensions , and will be manipulated ,abused by different interpretations.

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

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

No

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

You are suggesting cultural expression be punished. Again this will cause resentment ,tension and possibly dangers for those assigned to remove them . If the psni can be told to leave an area and do! How can council workers remove flags safely? This whole proposal is opening up a hornets nest

Clause 6: Request for assistance from police

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

No

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I think with the clear rise in violent and sexual attacks on our people the police have more pressing crimes to deal with. It will also escalate tensions

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

No

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Who decides???? Far too subjective

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It is a terrible idea, and will make for a terrible bill. It will only succeed in stirring up resentment and tensions in both communities, and will be open to abuse

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

No

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I don't agree with need for this bill. There are far more important issues to deal with in Northern Ireland, but bills like this are used to distract and achieve nothing but division