

Hospital Parking Charges Bill

[AS AMENDED AT CONSIDERATION STAGE]

LEGISLATIVE COMPETENCE

At Introduction the Minister of Health had made the following statement under section 9 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998:

“In my view the Hospital Parking Charges Bill would be within the legislative competence of the Northern Ireland Assembly.”

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CONTENTS

1. New date for ban on charges
2. Reporting on cost implications
3. Commencement and short title

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BILL

TO

Further postpone the ban under the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 on charging money for parking vehicles in hospital car parks.

BE IT ENACTED by being passed by the Northern Ireland Assembly and assented to by His Majesty as follows:

New date for ban on charges

1.—(1) Despite section 1 of the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2024, section 1 of the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (“the 2022 Act”) has effect as follows.

5 (2) If section 1 of the 2022 Act is not in effect when this Act comes into operation, that section remains of no effect until taking effect on the specified date.

(3) If section 1 of the 2022 Act is in effect when this Act comes into operation, that section—

10 (a) ceases having effect immediately, and

(b) resumes having effect on the specified date.

(4) The specified date in either situation is such date, which is to be no later than 12 May 2029, as the Department of Health may by regulations specify for the purpose of this section.

15 (5) Regulations under this Act may not be made unless a draft of them has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the Assembly.

Reporting on cost implications

2.—(1) The Department of Health must, within the period of 6 months beginning with the day on which this Act comes into operation, prepare a report on the total

costs arising from the delayed implementation of the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 to date.

5 (2) For each complete financial year thereafter, the Department must prepare a report setting out the costs associated with the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 during that year.

(3) The Department must, after preparing a report under this section—

(a) lay a copy of the report before the Assembly, and

(b) publish the report in such manner as the Department considers appropriate.

(4) This section expires on the date specified in section 1(4).

10 **Commencement and short title**

3.—(1) This Act comes into operation on the day after receiving Royal Assent.

(2) This Act may be cited as the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2026.

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[AS AMENDED AT CONSIDERATION STAGE]

A Bill to further postpone the ban under the Hospital Parking Charges Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 on charging money for parking vehicles in hospital car parks.

Introduced by: Mr Mike Nesbitt, Minister of Health

On: 09 March 2026

As amended at Consideration Stage: 24 March 2026

Bill Type: Executive Bill

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

**An Explanatory and Financial Memorandum is printed separately as
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For more information please contact:

Northern Ireland Assembly
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast BT4 3XX

Telephone: 028 90 521137

Textphone: 028 90 521209

E-mail: info@niassembly.gov.uk