

AGRICULTURE BILL

AMENDMENT TO BE MOVED AT REPORT STAGE

In clause 28, page 22, line 4

after “may” insert “following consultation with relevant stakeholders”

Effect

This amendment would impose a duty on the Secretary of State to consult relevant stakeholders when making regulations as specified.

Reason

Consultation provides for an additional layer of scrutiny by stakeholders. A requirement on the Secretary of State to consult will help to ensure openness and transparency of the Secretary of State’s actions. Imposing a duty to consult will ensure any draft statutory instrument is exposed to critical comment from stakeholders, which may improve an instrument and help to avoid future difficulties when it is progressing through Parliament.