

Public Bill Committees – Scrutiny Unit

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FOR RELEASE ON TUESDAY 16th NOVEMBER

Call for written evidence: Terrorist Asset-Freezing etc .Bill

Do you have relevant expertise and experience or a special interest in the Terrorist Asset-Freezing etc. Bill?

If so, you can submit your views in writing to the House of Commons Public Bill Committee which is going to consider this Bill.

Purpose of the Bill

The United Kingdom is required by the UN to freeze the assets of persons who commit terrorist acts. The UK legislation that allowed the Treasury to freeze the assets of those suspected of involvement in terrorism was quashed by the UK Supreme Court in January 2010 but reinstated by temporary legislation immediately afterwards. The Terrorist Asset-Freezing (Temporary Provisions) Act 2010 expires on 31 December 2010. This Bill seeks to replace that Act with a permanent legislative framework.

Key areas of the Bill

The Bill aims to prevent the financing of terrorist acts by freezing the funds of those who participate in or facilitate such acts.

The Bill can be viewed on the Parliamentary website:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/102/11102.i-iv.html>

The Explanatory Notes on the Bill are also available:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmbills/102/en/2011102en.htm>

On Monday 15 November the House of Commons debated the main principles of the Bill and decided that the Bill should be given its Second Reading. The Bill has now been sent to a Public Bill Committee for scrutiny.

Deadline for submissions

The sooner you send in your submission, the more time the Committee will have to take it into consideration. The Public Bill Committee will complete its consideration of the Bill on **25 November**.

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Guidance on submitting written evidence

What should written evidence cover?

Your submission should address matters contained within the Bill and concentrate on issues where you have a special interest or expertise, and factual information of which you would like the Committee to be aware. It is helpful if the submission includes a brief introduction about you or your organisation. The submission should not have been previously published or circulated elsewhere. If you have any concerns about your submission, please contact the Scrutiny Unit (details below).

How should written evidence be submitted?

Your submission should be emailed to scrutiny@parliament.uk. Please note that submissions sent to the Government department in charge of the Bill will **not** be treated as evidence to the Public Bill Committee.

Submissions should be in the form of a Word document. A summary should be provided. Paragraphs should be numbered, but there should be no page numbering. Essential statistics or further details can be added as annexes, which should also be numbered. To make publication easier, please avoid the use of coloured graphs, complex diagrams or pictures. As a guideline, submissions should not exceed 3,000 words.

You should also include a separate covering email containing the name, address, telephone number and email address of the person responsible for the submission. The submission should be dated.

What will happen to my evidence?

The written evidence will be circulated to all Committee Members to inform their consideration of the Bill. Most submissions will also be published. They will be posted on the internet as soon as possible after the Committee has started sitting, and will also be printed in hard copy at the end of the Committee's deliberations.

Contact details

The Scrutiny Unit can help with any queries about written evidence. Contact details are as follows:

Telephone: 020 7219 8383/8387

Email: scrutiny@parliament.uk

Fax: 020 7219 8381

Post: Gosia McBride, Deputy Head (Legislation),
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