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Lord Rosser
House of Lords
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18 April 2017

Dear Richard,

CRIMINAL FINANCES BILL: GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS

I have today tabled Government amendments to the Criminal Finances Bill, which will be considered by the House at Report Stage on 25 April.

These amendments are minor or technical in nature and only amend existing measures in the Bill to ensure that they work effectively. I have attached the list of amendments tabled and further details follow below.

Further Information Orders and SARs moratorium extension – UK extent

Amendment 22 would amend Part 11 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA) to ensure that Further Information Orders and extensions to the Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) moratorium period would be applicable across the UK i.e. so that such orders issued in one UK legal jurisdiction can be recognised by a court in another.

Increasing the information sharing time limit

Following further discussions with the financial sector, amendment 4 would increase the current time limit in the Bill for banks and other regulated sector entities to share information where they have reasonable suspicion to do so. This would allow for more complex cases, where three or four banks or bodies may be involved and more time is required.

In addition to these, I will also be tabling a number of minor and technical amendments (1-3, 5-21). Further to ongoing discussions, I may table further technical amendments for Report Stage or Third Reading later this week. If so, I will of course inform you once they have been tabled.

As ever, I would be happy to discuss them with you or any other Peer – you can contact my office on 020 7035 8798. In any case, I look forward to debating them at Report.

I am copying this letter to all Peers who spoke during Committee and will place a copy in the Library of the House.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan", is centered on a light yellow rectangular background.

Baroness Williams of Trafford

Enc.

Government amendments, tabled 18 April 2017