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Interaction of the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill with EU Law Changes

Thank you for your continued engagement on the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill. I am writing following the point you raised during the second day of Committee Stage about the recognition and mirroring of EU law.

The Bill provides the flexibility for the UK to make a sovereign decision on whether or not to mirror EU provisions on a case-by-case basis through secondary legislation. This means that when the EU amends its relevant laws, the UK will carefully consider whether those changes should be reflected in domestic legislation, subject to appropriate parliamentary oversight.

The Bill does not allow for regulations to make ambulatory references to changing EU law i.e. changes in EU law would not automatically apply to UK law. In order to implement any such changes, the Government will need to return to Parliament to update references to EU law within our regulations, using the powers within this Bill, where it is in the interest of our businesses and consumers.

I hope this addresses any concerns you may have regarding the interaction of the Bill with EU law. If it would be helpful, I would be happy to arrange a meeting with my officials to discuss this matter in greater detail.

I am copying this letter to other noble Lords who spoke in the debate and will deposit a copy in the Library of the House.

Yours Sincerely,

Lord Leong CBE
Lord in Waiting (Government Whip)