

PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

REFERRAL OF BILLS AT STAGE 1

SCOTTISH EMPLOYMENT INJURIES ADVISORY COUNCIL BILL

Introduction

1. The Scottish Employment Injuries Advisory Council Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 8 June 2023 by Mark Griffin MSP.
2. The Bill would establish a new body, the Scottish Employment Injuries Advisory Council (SEIAC), which would provide expertise about support for people who can no longer work because of workplace injury or disease.
3. SEIAC would be a Scottish equivalent to the UK Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC). The IIAC gives advice to the UK Government on the link between particular occupations and diseases. However, the IIAC will have no role in Scotland now that the relevant social security powers are devolved.

Discussion

4. The Bill falls within the remit of the following committees:

Social Justice and Social Security Committee

The remit of this committee is to consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, excluding matters relating to housing and tenants' rights. This Bill falls within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice as it relates to the development and delivery of Scottish Government benefits.

Economy and Fair Work Committee

The remit of this committee includes to consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to energy. The Bill engages the responsibilities of the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy as it relates to employment.

5. It is understood that the Social Justice and Social Security Committee has the main interest in this Bill. It is this committee that has already taken evidence from the Member in Charge of the Bill in relation to his statement of reasons setting out why further consultation on the Bill this session was not required (having been consulted on in session 5).

WELFARE OF DOGS (SCOTLAND) BILL

6. The Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill is a member's bill that was introduced in the Parliament on 21 June 2023 by the Christine Graeme MSP.

7. The Bill requires the Scottish Ministers to make a code of practice for any person seeking to acquire a dog as a pet or anyone seeking to sell or give away a dog as a pet. The Bill also provides regulation-making powers to Scottish Ministers to create a register of any person seeking to sell or give away a dog or dogs aged less than 12 months (puppies).

8. The Bill relates to matters about animal welfare at the point of acquisition, sale or transfer. The remit of the Rural Affairs and Island Committee includes consideration of matters relating to animal welfare and wildlife crime and as such its remit is engaged. No other committee remit is engaged.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. It is suggested that the Bureau recommends to the Parliament that the Social Justice and Social Security Committee be designated as the lead committee for consideration of this Bill at Stage 1. We are not aware of any desire on the part of the Economy and Fair Work Committee to be designated as a secondary committee. However, the lack of a formal designation does not prevent that committee from considering the Bill if it so wishes.

10. The Bureau is invited to agree to refer the Welfare of Dogs (Scotland) Bill to the Rural Affairs and Island Committee under Rule 9.6.1 for consideration at Stage 1.

Parliamentary Business Team
June 2023