

# Bullet Points for Letters

If you are concerned about the *United Kingdom Internal Market Bill*, and you want to write a letter to your MP before the bill passes into law, there are some bullet points below that you may find helpful.

Please use your own words, especially at the top and the bottom of the letter, as MPs sometimes disregard mass mailings.

*[Introductory text, describing your relationship with your MP – i.e. setting out that you are a constituent and whether or not you have had previous contact]*

- like many of your constituents, I am extremely concerned about the *United Kingdom Internal Market Bill*, and I want to ask you to do all in your power to make sure that it is not passed in its current form.
- Many people have raised the point that **Section 45** of the bill gives the government the power to break international law, and that doing so in this situation could imperil the peace in Northern Ireland. I share their concern.
- I also have a more general concern about the removal of “*all rights, powers, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, remedies and procedures*” which currently enable legal challenge to prevent dangerous or irrational regulations being imposed by ministers.
- Such regulations could cover a much greater range of issues than are currently being spoken of. For example state aid potentially allows for the exercise of a wide range of powers, eg spending our money in ways that might otherwise break the law, including for example, relaxing bribery laws.
- Finally, and most importantly, once the principle of giving ministers the power to enact regulations free from scrutiny is established in this context, the risk of it happening in other contexts is far greater.

*[Concluding text, asking your MP or reassurance that he or she will do all in his or her power to prevent the Bill passing with this clause intact]*

## 45 Further provision related to sections 42 and 43 etc

(1) The following have effect **notwithstanding any relevant international or domestic law with which they may be incompatible or inconsistent**<sup>1</sup>—

- (a) section 42;
- (b) any regulations<sup>2</sup> made under section 42(1);
- (c) section 43;
- (d) any regulations made under section 43(1);
- (e) this section;
- (f) any other provision of this Act so far as relating to the provisions in paragraphs (a) to (e).

(2) Accordingly (among other things)—

(a) regulations under section 42(1) or 43(1) **are not to be regarded as unlawful on the grounds of any incompatibility or inconsistency with relevant international or domestic law**<sup>3</sup>;

(b) all **rights, powers, liabilities, obligations, restrictions, remedies and procedures**<sup>4</sup> which are, in accordance with section 7A of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, to be recognised and available in domestic law, and enforced, allowed and followed accordingly, **cease to be recognised and available in domestic law, or enforced, allowed and followed**, so far and for as long as they are incompatible or inconsistent with a provision mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subsection (1);

(c) section 7C of that Act ceases to have effect so far and for as long as it would require any question as to the validity, meaning or effect of any relevant separation agreement law to be decided in a way which is incompatible or inconsistent with a provision mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subsection (1);

(d) **any other provision or rule of domestic law that is relevant international or domestic law ceases to have effect** so far and for as long as it is incompatible or inconsistent with a provision mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (f) of subsection (1).

---

<sup>1</sup> In other words, even if it breaks international or domestic law, we shall do it.

<sup>2</sup> These powers attach to regulations created by ministers, not just to laws passed by Parliament.

<sup>3</sup> Even if they are unlawful under UK or international law, we shall consider them lawful.

<sup>4</sup> All these rights, powers and remedies, etc, will be lost.