



HOUSE OF LORDS

Select Committee on the Constitution

House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 1228
constitution@parliament.uk
www.parliament.uk/lords

Lord Caine
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Northern Ireland Office
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

10 November 2021

Dear Lord Caine,

Northern Ireland (Ministers, Elections and Petitions of Concern) Bill

I write on behalf of the Constitution Committee in relation to the Northern Ireland (Ministers, Elections and Petitions of Concern) Bill.

The Committee does not consider this Bill to be constitutionally significant and therefore will not be issuing a report. However, the Committee welcomes the Bill and, once it has been considered by the House, is conscious of the need to bring it into force as soon as possible to help minimise any future suspension of the Northern Ireland institutions.

The Committee also appreciates that, while welcome, the Bill's provisions do not guarantee the effective functioning of the Northern Ireland Executive, nor do they prevent the collapse of the devolved administration if there is sufficient will to bring that about.

Yours sincerely,

Baroness Taylor of Bolton
Chair of the Constitution Committee