

November 2nd: What was said in the Debate:

The amendments were withdrawn to allow discussion on their legal meaning, and on whether wording could be found that is acceptable to all parties. This amendment will be discussed again at the Report Stage of the Bill.

On the Secretary of State's Duties (Clause 1):

Liberal Democrats

“the greatest prize that this House could give to the future of health services in this country would be to reach a broad political consensus on the issue, so that the NHS and other health services, as they go forward, find that they are based on a solid rock of acceptance and consensus that will carry us through many of the ups and downs that we are bound to face in the next few years.”

Shirley Williams

‘ From these Benches, I repeat that we need a reworked clause with completely unambiguous language that will reflect the duties of the Secretary of State for the 21st century and the new NHS that we are trying to forge’

Judith Jolly, CoChair Lib Dems Parliamentary Party Committee on Health.

Labour

“We have a record on this Bill of cross-House discussions involving all the people with an interest and expertise in matters relating to it. In that spirit, I wish these amendments to be withdrawn”

Glenys Thornton, Labour health spokesperson,

Conservatives

“there are no closed views. That is the reason why I suggested earlier that it was time to reflect and engage in discussions in the spirit of co-operation”

Freddie Howe, Sheila Hollins

Key areas of discussion in debate:

Improving quality (*from Labour's Glenys Thornton*)

Geographical boundaries for Commissioning Groups, (*from crossbencher, Ilora Finlay, Meral Hessein-Ece (Lib Dem) and Shirley Williams (Lib Dem)*)

Mental Health, (*from crossbencher, Sheila Hollins and John Alderdice (Lib Dem)*)

Peers to watch:

Tony Newton (former Conservative Cabinet Minister)

John Alderdice (Convenor of Liberal Democrat Peers)

Brian Mawhinney, (Former Conservative Cabinet Minister)

Meral Hussein-Ece (Liberal Democrat and former Islington Councillor)

Hot topics coming up next week:

The next two committee days in the House of Lords on the Health and Social Care Bill will be Monday 7th and Wednesday 9th November 2011

Autonomy – Liberal Democrat Peers, and others, have currently put down amendments removing this clause altogether – after the day 2 debates it is likely these will also not be voted on to allow for the debate to consider the whole package.

Disabilities

Health Inequalities