

Time Spent on Government Bills of Constitutional Significance since 1945

Research Paper 97/97

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The new Government has announced its intention to enact several measures of 'constitutional reform', including devolved assemblies for Wales and Scotland, and reform of the House of Lords. This Paper analyses the time spent, in both Houses, on a number of government bills of major constitutional significance since 1945, including bills on the European Communities, on devolution and on referendums. The tables also give details of other debates, divisions and guillotine motions relating to these proceedings. This Paper is a companion Paper to two recent Research Papers: 97/53, *The Commons committee stage of 'constitutional' bills* (the appendix of which contains more limited information on a broader category of 'constitutional' bill), and 97/64, *Aspects of Parliamentary reform*.

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I Introduction

This Paper analyses the progress through both Houses of 15 bills since 1945 which could be said to be 'constitutional bills', starting with the *Parliament Bill* of 1947-48 and ending with the *Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill* 1997-98. The Bills have been grouped according to their subject-matter. They encompass most of the measures that would be considered 'great measures of the session', such as devolution, reform of the House of Lords and UK membership of the EC. Further discussion of the definitional problems surrounding 'constitutional bills' can be found in Part II of Research Paper 97/53, *The Commons committee stage of 'constitutional' bills*.

The analysis tables give details of all the various stages and set out the time spent on each (in terms of hours and minutes, where this can be ascertained). To the extent that past experience can be any indication of the future, the Paper provides some data as a basis for predictions of the potential impact on the Government's overall legislative programme of the introduction of further 'constitutional' measures.

Summary

The Bill that took up most parliamentary time was the *Scotland Bill* 1977-78 (326 hours 40 minutes), closely followed by the *European Communities (Amendment) Bill* 1992-93 (310 hours 39 minutes). Three Bills spent more than 100 hours in the Committee of the Whole House in the House of Commons:- the *European Communities Bill* 1971-72 (181 hours 31 minutes); the *European Communities (Amendment) Bill* 1992-93 (162 hours 45 minutes), and the *Scotland Bill* 1977-78 (101 hours 10 minutes). The fastest passage was that of the *Peerage Bill* 1962-63, which took just 18 hours and 3 minutes spread over 6 sitting days. The *Northern Ireland Border Poll Bill* 1972-73 received a little more scrutiny (22 hours 27 minutes), but this was done in 4 sitting days.

Fewer than half of the 15 Bills were given more than one day's debate on Second Reading in the Commons. The *Scotland and Wales Bill* 1976-77 had four days; the *European Communities Bill* 1971-72 had three; two days were allocated to the following: *Parliament Bill* 1947-48 (although it received 6 days on Second Reading in the Lords); *Life Peerages Bill* 1957-58 (the Lords also gave it two days); *European Communities (Amendment) Bill* 1992-93, and *Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill* 1997-98. Reasoned amendments were selected in 7 of the Commons Second Reading debates. In some cases the House divided on the amendment, or on the motion that the original wording of the question stand part, but the *Peerage Bill* had no division at Second Reading at all.

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One third of the Bills were subject to the guillotine. Three of these were guillotined before committee stage:- *Scotland Bill 1977-78*, *Wales Bill 1977-78* and the *Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98*. The allocation of time motion on the *Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77* was negatived, the only occasion since the War when a guillotine motion has been lost.

Only one Bill started its passage in the Lords - the *Life Peerages Bill 1957-58*.

In terms of the overall length of time it can take for legislation to pass, i.e. from the date of a Bill's introduction to the date it receives Royal Assent, the clear winner, not surprisingly, is the Parliament Act 1949. First introduced into the Commons on 31 October 1947, it was blocked by the Lords in two successive sessions (the 1948 session was a short one specifically to fulfil the terms of the Parliament Act 1911), and did not receive Royal Assent until 16 December 1949, without the consent of the House of Lords (see Section II). It had taken two years and 46 days. The *European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93* took over a year to pass (439 days), although this was achieved within a single session made particularly long by starting after the general election in April 1992 and not ending until November 1993.

Two Bills failed to pass, the *Parliament (No. 2) Bill 1968-69* and the *Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77*.

The two Summary Tables that follow give details of the time taken and the time actually spent on the 15 Bills (Summary Table 1. *Speed of passage*), and of some indications of the ease or difficulty experienced by the Government of the day in getting their legislation through (Summary Table 2. *Ease of passage*).

Summary Tables

1. Speed of passage

Bill	Time spent in HC	Time spent in HL*	Total time spent	No. of days in session	Overall time taken to enact ¹
Parliament Bill 1947-48	4 days [20h:15m]	6 days	10 days	171	(222 days ²)
Parliament Bill 1948	2 days [12h:45m]	1 day	3 days	10 ³	(8 days ²)
Parliament Bill 1948-49	2 days [12h:30m]	1 day	3 days	208	(142 days); a total of 777 days overall (2 yrs 46 days)
Life Peerages Bill [HL] 1957-58	4 days [20h:30m]	4 days [c19h:27m]	8 days [39h:47m]	156	156 days
Peerage Bill 1962-63	2 days [8 hrs]	4 days [c10h:3m]	6 days [18h:3m]	162	63 days
Parliament (No.2) Bill 1968-69	10 days [94h:56m]	-	10 days [94h:56m]	164	(89 days ⁴)
European Communities Bill 1971-72	30 days [229h:17m]	9 days	39 days	180	266 days
Northern Ireland (Border Poll) Bill 1972-73	2 days [16h:24m]	2 days [6h:3m]	4 days [22h:27m]	164	36 days
Referendum Bill 1974-75	4 days [31h:30m]	2 days [5h:12m]	6 days [36h:42m]	198	43 days
Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77	16 days [134h:9m]	-	16 days [134h:9m]	149	(200 days ⁵)
Scotland Bill 1977-78	24 days [164h:2m]	23 days	47 days [326h:40m]	169	270 days
Wales Bill 1977-78	17 days [109h:37m]	12 days	29 days [178h:40m]	169	270 days
European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1985-86	7 days [37h:31m]	5 days [18h:43m]	12 days [56h:14m]	172	225 days

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Bill	Time spent in HC	Time spent in HL*	Total time spent	No. of days in session	Overall time taken to enact ¹
European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93	29 days [211h:11m]	12 days [90h:28m]	41 days [301h:39m]	240	439 days (1 yr 74 days)
Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98	7 days [37h:36m]	10 days [41h:54m]	17 days [79h:30m]	n/a	77 days

* Hours and minutes spent are not always available

¹ Calendar days from date of introduction to Royal Assent

² blocked

³ short session for the purposes of the Parliament Act 1911

⁴ dropped

⁵ withdrawn

n/a not yet available

2. Ease of passage

Bill	Govt introducing	Govt majority in HC at previous election ¹	Govt HC majority on 2R	Total no. of divisions (both Houses)	No. of Govt Bills introduced that session	Hours spent in HC CWH (% of total time spent in CWH that session)
Parliament Bill 1947-48	Lab (Attlee)	146	151	4	70	3h (2%)
Parliament Bill 1948	Lab (Attlee)	146	127	5	1	-
Parliament Bill 1948-49	Lab (Attlee)	146	137	5	102	-
Life Peerages Bill [HL] 1957-58	Con (Macmillan)	54	54	7	52	3h:30m (5%)
Peerage Bill 1962-63	Con (Macmillan)	100	no div.	4	43	3h:15m (5%)
Parliament (No.2) Bill 1968-69	Lab (Wilson)	96	150	58	54	88h:45m (44%)
European Communities Bill 1971-72	Con (Heath)	30	8	102	59	181h:31m (72%)
Northern Ireland (Border Poll) Bill 1972-73	Con (Heath)	30	22 ²	7	57	9h:59m (9%)
Referendum Bill 1974-75	Lab (Wilson)	3	64	17	81	20h:47m (17%)
Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77	Lab (Callaghan)	3	45	26	49	95h:47m (72%)
Scotland Bill 1977-78 ²	Lab (Callaghan)	3	44	129	49	101h:10m (44%)
Wales Bill 1977-78 ²	Lab (Callaghan)	3	31	89	49	64h:26m (28%)
European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1985-86	Con (Thatcher)	144	159	10	51	23h:7m (68%)
European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93	Con (Major)	21	244	88	52	162h:45m (77%)
Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98	Lab (Blair)	179	251 ²	17	n/a	9h:42m (n/a)

¹ David Butler. British General Elections since 1945 (2nd. ed, 1995).The Government retained its overall Commons majority during the passage of all bills except the Scotland Bill and Wales Bill 1977-78.

² division on reasoned amendment
n/a not yet available

II House of Lords Functions

The Parliament Acts of 1911 and 1949 restrict the powers of the House of Lords by limiting their ability to block legislation that has been passed by the Commons. The 1911 Act transformed the Lords' veto into the power to delay legislation for up to two years, and the 1949 Act further reduced their power of delay from two years to one. The *Parliament Bill 1947-48* was itself passed, without the consent of the Lords, by the use of the Parliament Act 1911, after the requisite delay.

	Parliament Bill 1947-48	Parliament Bill 1948	Parliament Bill 1948-49
HC 1R (formal)	31.10.47	16.09.48	28.07.49
HC 2R	2 days [13 hrs] (10-11.11.47)	1 day [6h:30m] (20.09.48)	1 day [6h:30m] (31.10.49)
HC 2R Division (Ayes-Noes)	11.11.47 Division on reasoned amd. (345-194) Govt majority 151	20.09.48 Division on reasoned amd. (319-192) Govt majority 127	31.10.49 (333-196) Govt majority 137
Other debates	-	21.09.48 (Procedure motion) [1h:15m]	14.11.49 (Procedure motion) [2 hrs]
HC Cttee of Whole House	1 day [3 hrs]	Mtn that Chairman do report Bill without amendment	Mtn that Chairman do report Bill without amendment
HC Guillotine	-	-	-
HC Report	04.12.47 [reported without amendment]	21.09.48 [reported without amendment]	14.11.49 [reported without amendment]
HC 3R	10.12.47 [4h:15m]	21.09.48 [5 hrs]	14.11.49 [4 hrs]
HC 3R Division (Ayes-Noes)	10.12.47 (340-186) Govt. majority 154	21.09.48 (323-195) Govt. majority 128	14.11.49 (340-187) Govt. majority 153
HC time spent	4 days [20h:15m]	2 days [12h:45m]	2 days [12h:30m]
HL 1R (formal)	11.12.47	22.09.48	15.11.49
HL 2R	6 days [c18h:27m] (27.01., 02-04.2, 08-09.06.48)	1 day [2hrs](23.09.48)	1 day [1h:47m] (29.11.49)
HL 2R Division (Contents-Not Contents)	09.06.48 Division on reasoned amd. (81-177) Oppn. Majority 96	23.09.48 (34-204) Oppn. majority 170	29.11.49 (37-110) Oppn. majority 73
HL Cttee of Whole House	-	-	-

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	Parliament Bill 1947-48	Parliament Bill 1948	Parliament Bill 1948-49
HL Report	-	-	-
HL 3R	-	-	-
HL time spent	6 days [c18h:27m]	1 day [2hrs]	1 day [1h:47m]
Royal Assent	-	-	16.12.49

SUMMARY

Total no. of divisions	4	5	5
Actual time spent	10 days [38h:42m]	3 days [14h:45m]	3 days [14h:17m]
Overall time taken	31.10.47 - 09.06.48 (222 days)	16.09.48 - 23.09.48 (8 days)	28.07.49 - 16.12.49 (142 days)

III House of Lords Composition

The *Life Peerages Bill* provided for the creation of life peerages carrying the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords. The *Peerage Bill 1962-63* made minor changes to the composition of the House of Lords: among other things, it authorised the disclaimer for life of certain life peerages, allowed all peeresses in their own right and Scottish peers to sit in the Lords, and removed certain disqualifications from Irish peers being elected to the House of Commons. The *Parliament (No.2) Bill*, which did not become law, was intended to exclude from membership of the House of Lords any hereditary peers who were not already members; to withdraw certain voting rights from some peers and establish minimum attendance requirements, and to reduce the number of Lords Spiritual. It also aimed to increase the predominance of the House of Commons over the Lords.

	Life Peerages Bill [HL] 1957-58	Peerage Bill 1962-63	Parliament (No. 2) Bill 1968-69
HC 1R (formal)	30.01.58	30.05.63	19.12.68
HC 2R	2 days [12h:30m] (12-13.02.58)	1 day [4h:45m] (19.06.63)	1 day [6h:11m] (03.02.69)
HC 2R Division (Ayes-Noes)	13.02.58 Division on reasoned amd. (305-251) Govt. majority 54	-	03.02.69 (285-135) Govt. majority 150
Other debates	-	-	-
HC Cttee of Whole House	1 day [5hrs] (25.03.58)	1 day [3h:15m] (27.06.63)	9 days [88h:45m] (dropped on 17.04.69)
HC Guillotine	-	-	-
HC Report	25.03.58 [reported without amendment]	27.06.63 [reported without amendment]	-
HC 3R	02.04.58 [3hrs]	27.06.63 [formal]	
HC 3R Division (Ayes-Noes)	02.04.58 (292-241) Govt. majority 51	-	-
HC time spent	4 days [20h:30m]	2 days [8hrs]	10 days [94h:56m]
HL 1R (formal)	26.11.57	28.06.63	-
HL 2R	2 days [c.12h:14m] (03,05.12.57)	1 day [c.4h:8m] (04.07.63)	-
HL 2R Division (Contents-Not Contents)	-	-	-

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	Life Peerages Bill [HL] 1957-58	Peerage Bill 1962-63	Parliament (No. 2) Bill 1968-69
HL Cttee of Whole House	2 days [c.5h:52m] (17-18.12.57)	2 days [5h:24m] (11,16.07.63)	-
HL Report	28.01.58 [formal]	1 day [31m] (18.07.63)	-
HL 3R	30.01.58 [1h:21m]	22.07.63 [17m]	-
HL time spent	4 days [19h:27m]	4 days [10h:3m]	-
Royal Assent	30.04.58	31.07.63	-

SUMMARY

Total no. of divisions	7	4	58
Actual time spent	8 days [39h:47m]	6 days [18h:3m]	10 days [94h:56m]
Overall time taken	26.11.57-30.04.58 (156 days)	30.05.63-31.07.63 (63 days)	19.12.68-17.04.69* (89 days)

- Date of statement of decision not to proceed with bill

IV European Communities

The *European Communities Bill 1971-72* took the United Kingdom into the European Communities. The *1985-86 Bill*, dealing with the Single European Act, amended the basic treaties and pledged the government to speed up the Community's decision-making and to create a genuinely common market. The 'Maastricht' Bill of 1992-93 dealt with the agreement at Maastricht relating to political and monetary union.

	European Communities Bill 1971-72	European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1985-86	European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93
HC 1R (formal)	25.01.72	27.03.86	07.05.92
HC 2R	3 days [17h:38m] (15-17.02.72)	1 day [5h:50m] (23.04.86)	2 days [22h:9m] (20-21.05.92)
HC 2R Divn (Ayes-Noes)	17.02.72 (309-301) Govt. majority 8	23.04.96 (319-160) Govt. majority 159	21.05.92 Division on reasoned amd. & on 2R (336- 92) Govt. majority 244
Other debates	22.02.72 (Ways & Means and Money Res.) [5h:21m]; 01.03.72 (Censure motion: selection of amendments) [5h:54m+8h:47m on points of order]; 06.03.72 (Censure motion: framing of Bill) [6h:15m]	-	04.11.92 [6h:43m] ('Paving debate')
HC Cttee of Whole House	10 days before guillotine; 12 days after [181h:31m]	3 days before guillotine; 1 day after [23h:7m]	23 days [162 h:45 m]*
HC Guillotine	02.05.72 [6h:26m]	01.07.86 [3h:21m]	-
HC Report	05.07.72 (last day of Committee stage) [7h:27m]	10.07.86 [5h:13m]	2 days [13h:28m] (04- 05.05.93)
HC 3R	13.07.72 [6h:12m]	10.07.86 (inc. above)	20.05.93 [6h:6m]
HC 3R Divn (Ayes-Noes)	13.07.72 (301-284) Govt. majority 17	10.07.86 (149-43) Govt. majority 106	20.05.93 (292-112) Govt. majority 180
HC time spent	30 days [229h:17m]	7 days [37h:31m]	29 days [211h:11m]
HL 1R (formal)	14.07.72	11.07.86	24.05.93
HL 2R	2 days [c13h:23m] (25-26.07.72)	1 day [5h:12m] (31.07.86)	2 days [25h:37m] (07-08.06.93)

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	European Communities Bill 1971-72	European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1985-86	European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93
HL 2R Division (Contents-Not Contents)	26.07.72 (189-19) Govt. majority 170	-	-
HL Cttee of Whole House	4 days [c28:24m] (03,07,08,10.08.72)	2 days [11h:25m] (08,17.10.86)	6 days [38h:45m] (22-24,28-30.06.93)
HL Report	2 days [13h:17m] (12-13.09.72)	1 day [formal] (27.10.86)	3 days [19h:5m] (12-14.07.93)
HL 3R	20.09.72 [7h:21m]	03.11.86 [2h:6m]	20.07.93 [7h:1m]
HL time spent	9 days [c62h:25m]	5 days [18h:43m]	12 days [90h:28m]
Royal Assent	17.10.72	07.11.86	20.07.93

SUMMARY

Total no. of divisions	102	10	88
Actual time spent	39 days [c291h:42m]	12 days [56h:14m]	41 days [301h:39m]
Overall time taken	25.01.72 - 17.10.72 (266 days)	27.03.86 - 07.11.86 (225 days)	07.05.92 - 20.07.93 (439 days)

* longest since 1979

V Referendums

The *Northern Ireland (Border Poll) Bill* provided for periodic referendums to determine whether the majority of the people of Northern Ireland wished to remain part of the United Kingdom. The *Referendum Bill 1974-75* allowed for a referendum to take place on the question of whether the UK should stay in the EC. The *Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98* provides for referendums on devolution for Scotland and for Wales. (The two 1979 devolution referendums were dealt with in the *Scotland Bill 1977-78* and the *Wales Bill 1977-78* (see Section VI)).

	Northern Ireland (Border Poll) Bill 1972-73	Referendum Bill 1974-75	Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98
HC 1R (formal)	01.11.72	26.03.75	15.05.97
HC 2R	1 day [6h:25m] (21.11.72)	1 day [6h:43m] (10.04.75)	2 days [9h:31m] (21-22.05.97)
HC 2R Division (Ayes-Noes)	21.11.72 Division on reasoned amd. (179-201) Govt. majority 22	10.04.75 (312-248) Govt. majority 64	22.05.97 Division on reasoned amd. (155-406) Govt. majority 251
Other debates	-	-	25.07.97 (on the White Paper on devolution in Wales) [4h:56m]; 30.07.97 (Money No 2 Resolution) [24m]; 31.07.97 (on the White Paper on devolution in Scotland) [6h:21m]
HC Cttee of Whole House	1 day incl. rem. stages [9h:59m] (23.11.72)	2 days [20h:47m] (22-23.04.75)	2 days incl. rem.stages [9h:42m] (03-04.06.97)
HC Guillotine	-	-	03.06.97 [3h:26m]
HC Report	23.11.72 [see above]	1 day incl. rem. stages [4h] (24.04.75)	04.06.97 [see above]
HC 3R	23.11.72 [see above]	24.04.75 [1h:32m] see above	04.06.97 [see above]
HC 3R Division (Ayes-Noes)	23.11.72 (62-8) Govt. majority 54	24.04.75 (180-41) Govt. majority 139	04.06.97 (339-148) Govt. majority 191
HL 1R (formal)	28.11.72	28.04.75	05.06.97
HL2R	05.12.72 [formal]	1 day [c.2h:26m] (29.04.75)	1 day [7h:57m] (17.06.97)
HL 2R Division (Contents-Not Contents)	-	-	-

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	Northern Ireland (Border Poll) Bill 1972-73	Referendum Bill 1974-75	Referendums (Scotland and Wales) Bill 1997-98
Other debates	05.12.72 (on the White Paper) [5h:9m]	-	30.07.97 (on the White papers on devolution) [6h:10m]
HL Cttee of Whole House	1 day incl. rem. stages [54m] (07.12.72)	1 day [2h:46m] (05.05.75)	3 days [17h:34m] (01, 03, 07.07.97)
HL Report	see above	06.05.75 rem. stages [formal]	2 days [7h:53m] (21-22.07.97)
HL 3R	see above	see above	29.07.97 [1h:38m]
HC Supp. Guillotine	-	-	30.07.97 [36m]
HC Cons. of Lords Amdts	-	-	30.07.97 [2h:40m]
HL Cons. of Commons Reasons	-	-	31.07.97 [42m]
Royal Assent	07.12.72	08.05.75	31.07.97
HC time spent	2 days [16h:24m]	4 days [31h:30m]	7 days [37h:36m]
HL time spent	2 days [6h:3m]	3 days [5h:12m]	10 days [41h:54m]

SUMMARY

Total no. of divisions	7	17	17
Actual time spent	4 days [22h:27m]	6 days [36h:42m]	17 days [79h:30m]
Overall time taken	01.11.72 - 07.12.72 (36 days)	26.03.75 - 08.05.75 (43 days)	15.05.97-31.07.97 (77 days)

VI Devolution

The *Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77* provided for the establishment of devolved assemblies for Scotland and Wales, but it was strongly opposed, and the Government had to abandon it when they failed to secure a guillotine motion. In the following session, separate Bills were introduced for Scotland and for Wales, providing for devolved assemblies after referendums in both countries.

	Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77	Scotland Bill 1977-78	Wales Bill 1977-78
HC 1R (formal)	29.11.76	04.11.77	04.11.77
HC 2R	4 days [31h:59m] (13-16.12.76)	1 day [7h:20m] (14.11.77)	1 day [7h:29m] (15.11.77)
HC 2R Division (Ayes-Noes)	16.12.76 (292-247) Govt. majority 45	14.11.77 Division on reasoned amd. & on 2R (307-263) Govt. majority 44	15.11.77 (295-264) Govt. majority 31
Other debates	-	-	-
HC Cttee of Whole House	10 days before guillotine motion; 1 day after [95h:47m]	14 days [101h:10m]	9 days [64h:26m]
HC Guillotine	22.02.77 [6h:23m] (Motion negatived)	16.11.77 [3h:19m]	16.11.77 [3h:19m]
HC Report	-	2 days [14h:21m] (14-15.02.78)	03.05.78 [7h:8m]
HC 3R	-	22.02.78 [7h:36m]	09.05.78 [6h:57m]
HC 3R Division (Ayes-Noes)	-	22.02.78 (297-257) Govt. majority 40	09.05.78 (292-264) Govt. majority 28
HL 1R (formal)	-	23.02.78	10.05.78
HL 2R	-	2 days (14-15.03.78)	1 day (23.05.78)
HL 2R Division (Contents-Not Contents)	-	-	-
HL Cttee of Whole House	-	13 days (04.04-17.05.78)	6 days (06-23.06.78)

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	Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77	Scotland Bill 1977-78	Wales Bill 1977-78
HL Report	-	5 days (07-20.06.78)	2 days (05-06.07.78)
HL 3R	-	29.06.78 [3h:21m]	13.07.78 [2h:40m]
HC Supp. Guillotine	-	04.07.78 [14h:20m]	18.07.78 [1h:14m]
HC Cons. of Lords Amdts	-	a)3 days [25h:23m] (06,17,18.07.78) b)26.07.78 [3h:33m]	a)2 days [16h:50m] (19-20.07.78) b)26.07.78 [3h:28m]
HL Cons. of Commons Reasons	-	a) 20.07.78 b) 27.07.78	a) 24.07.78 b) 27.07.78
Royal Assent	-	31.07.78	31.07.78
HC time spent	16 days [134h:9m]	24 days [164h:2m]	17 days [109h:37m]
HL time spent	-	23 days	12 days

SUMMARY

Total no. of divisions	26 (HC)	129	89
Actual time spent	16 days [134h:9m]	47 days [326h:40m] ¹	29 days [178h:40m] ¹
Overall time taken	29.11.76 - 16.06.77 ² (200 days)	04.11.77 - 31.07.78 (270 days)	04.11.77 - 31.07.78 (270 days)

¹ HC Deb. 15.3.89 c264w

² date bill withdrawn

VII Further reading

Life Peerages Bill 1957-58

Bernard Crick, "The Life Peerages Act". *Parliamentary Affairs* 11, 1957-58 p455-465

Parliament (No. 2) Bill 1968-69

Janet Morgan. *The House of Lords and the Labour Government 1964-1970* (OUP, 1975)
Ch 8 'The attempt to reform the House of Lords; the White Paper and the Parliament Bill'

European Communities Bill 1971-72

Ivor Burton & Gavin Drewry. *Legislation and public policy* (Macmillan, 1981) p155-161

Referendum Bill 1974-75

David Butler & Uwe Kitzinger. *The 1975 referendum* (2nd. ed. Macmillan, 1996)
Ch 3 'Legislation'.

Scotland and Wales Bill 1976-77

H M Drucker & Gordon Brown. *The politics of nationalism and devolution* (Longman, 1980)
Ch 9 'Parliament as a hurdle'.

Scotland Bill 1977-78

P D Lindley. *The Scotland Act in Parliament: a chronological summary* (Civil Service College, 1978)

[see also Drucker & Brown, above]

Wales Bill 1977-78

David Foulkes et al. *The Welsh veto: the Wales Act 1978 and the referendum* (University of Wales Press, 1983)

Ch 3 'The parliamentary passage of the Wales Act 1978'.

[see also Drucker & Brown, above]

European Communities (Amendment) Bill 1992-93

David Baker et al, "Whips or scorpions? The Maastricht Vote and the Conservative Party".
Parliamentary Affairs 46, 1993 p 147-166

Geoffrey Marshall, "The Maastricht proceedings". *Public Law* Autumn 1993 p.402-407.

Recent Research Papers on related subjects:

97/92	Scotland and Devolution	29.07.97
97/64	Aspects of Parliamentary Reform	21.05.97
97/61	The Referendum (Scotland and Wales) Bill [Bill 1 of 1997-98]	20.05.97
97/60	Wales and Devolution	19.05.97
97/53	The Commons committee stage of 'constitutional' bills	20.05.97
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97/10	Referendum: Recent Proposals	24.01.97