



Y Gwir Anrhydeddus Elin Jones AS

Llywydd, Senedd Cymru

Right Honourable Elin Jones MS

Llywydd, Welsh Parliament

Senedd Cymru

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Carolyn Thomas MS
Chair of Petitions Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

18 November 2024

Dear Carolyn,

Petition P-06-1446 Abolish the name 'Wales' and make 'CYMRU' the only name for our country

You will be aware that the name of the legislature is a matter for the Senedd to decide and requires legislation to make any change, with two-thirds of the number of Members of the Senedd voting in favour.

The Senedd considered the change of name of the institution during the passage of the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020. The Commission undertook the work to explore the name change and introduced the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Bill following a clear mandate from the Senedd. The Commission would not otherwise proactively propose legislative changes to the Senedd's name.

The Explanatory Memorandum (EM) for the Act which was revised following Stage 4 of the Bill, provides an overview of the considerations regarding the name change including the Official Languages Impact Assessment. Section 4.2 and 18.10 of the EM set out the Commission's considerations relating to its original proposal in the Bill. Section 26.2.1 of the EM provides an overview and rationale of the amendments to the Bill which were tabled by Carwyn Jones AM and agreed by the Senedd at Stage 2, and the Official Languages Impact Assessment of those changes. The Senedd voted in favour by majority for a name in both languages: "Senedd Cymru" or "Welsh Parliament", and agreed other amendments aimed at

normalising the use of 'Senedd' as the commonly-used name for the institution. The EM can be found here: [**Senedd and Elections \(Wales\) Bill - Revised Explanatory Memorandum**](#). The transcripts of the relevant debates by Members during the passage of the Bill can be found here: [**Senedd and Elections \(Wales\) Act 2020**](#)

Section 5.2 of the Explanatory Memorandum refers to the consultation undertaken on the name change. Here is the link to the 'Consultation Results Report: Changing the name of the National Assembly for Wales' [**Results report-E.PDF**](#)

The minutes of the Commission's considerations relating to the Bill can be found in the 'Related Meetings' section here [**Constitutional reform \(senedd.wales\)**](#)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elin Jones".

The Rt. Hon. Elin Jones MS/AS

Llywydd

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg / We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English