

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Y Pwyllgor Biliau Diwygio | Reform Bill Committee

Bil Senedd Cymru (Rhestrau Ymgeiswyr Etholiadol) | Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill

Ymateb gan Athina Mara | Evidence from Athina Mara

What are your views on the general principles of the Bill and the need for legislation to deliver the Welsh Government's stated policy objective (to make the Senedd a more effective legislature by ensuring it is broadly representative of the gender make-up of the population)?

This is a Bill that can contribute in women's political empowerment, provided that it will also foresee the participation of women with intersectional characteristics.

What are your views on the system of enforcement and potential sanctions for non-compliance proposed in the Bill?

A more inclusive language and terminology is needed; Non-binary people and trans women are excluded by 'woman or not a woman' wording

Are there any potential barriers to the implementation of the Bill's provisions? If so, what are they, and are they adequately taken into account in the Bill and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment?

Are any unintended consequences likely to arise from the Bill?

Women and femininities with intersectional characteristics (i.e in terms of their socio-economic status, ethnicity or sexuality/sexual orientation), can face more barriers in participating in politics, therefore the Bill needs to be more inclusive for them

What are your views on the Welsh Government's assessment of the financial and other impacts of the Bill?

What are your views on the balance between the information contained on the face of the Bill and what is left to subordinate legislation? Are the powers for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation appropriate?

Do you have any views on matters relating to the legislative competence of the Senedd including compatibility with the European Convention on Human Rights?

Compatibility with the European Convention on Human Rights needs to be pursued - it is a positive step towards equality if the Bill takes ECHR into consideration

Do you have any views on matters related to the quality of the legislation, or to the constitutional or other implications of the Bill?

Are there any other issues that you would like to raise about the Bill and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum or any related matters?

Anything else?