



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

6 July 2012

Dear Colleague,

We come from all sides of the Conservative Party, and are writing as reformers to express our serious concern at the current proposals to create an elected House of Lords.

The Lords Bill is a measure of profound constitutional significance. Over time it will fundamentally change the institutions by which we as a nation are governed. It threatens to pile a constitutional crisis on top of an economic crisis.

Specifically:

- What is now proposed will undermine the primacy of the Commons, with competing chambers which will lead to legislative gridlock.
- It will create hundreds of unaccountable new elected politicians at a time when we as a party are committed to reducing the cost of politics; and
- It will produce a chamber which is less expert, less diverse and significantly more expensive than the present one.

The commitments in our 2010 election manifesto and in the Programme for Government—to seek consensus and to bring forward proposals—have been fulfilled. We hope you will support us in giving this Bill the full and unrestricted scrutiny it deserves.

Yours ever,

Adam Afriyie	David Amess	James Arbuthnot	Steve Baker
John Baron	Guto Bebb	Paul Beresford	Bob Blackman
Peter Bone	Andrew Bridgen	Steve Brine	Robert Buckland
Aidan Burley	Dan Byles	Alun Cairns	Bill Cash
Christopher Chope	James Clappison	Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	Geoffrey Cox
Tracey Crouch	Philip Davies	David Davis	Nick de Bois
Caroline Dinéage	Nadine Dorries	Richard Drax	George Eustice
Mike Freer	Richard Fuller	Zac Goldsmith	James Gray
Andrew Griffiths	Richard Harrington	Simon Hart	Oliver Heald
Philip Hollobone	Stewart Jackson	Bernard Jenkin	Chris Kelly
Eleanor Laing	Pauline Latham	Philip Lee	Edward Leigh
Julian Lewis	Ian Liddell-Grainger	Peter Lilley	Jonathan Lord
Anne Main	Karl McCartney	Patrick Mercer	Penny Mordaunt
Jesse Norman	Neil Parish	Priti Patel	Chris Pincher
Jacob Rees-Mogg	Malcolm Rifkind	Andrew Rosindell	David Ruffley
Nicholas Soames	Rory Stewart	Bob Stewart	Gary Streeter
Andrew Turner	Robin Walker	Charles Walker	Craig Whittaker
John Whittingdale	Nadhim Zahawi		

[Further names omitted]