



# Bishops Act 1878

1878 CHAPTER 68 41 and 42 Vict

## 5 The number of bishops sitting in Parliament not to be increased.

The number of Lords Spiritual sitting and voting as Lords of Parliament shall not be increased by the foundation of a new bishopric [<sup>F1</sup>after the year 1846] ; and whenever there is a vacancy among such Lords Spiritual by the avoidance of any of the sees of Canterbury, York, London, Durham, or Winchester, such vacancy shall be supplied by the issue of a writ of summons to the bishop acceding to the see so avoided; and if such vacancy is caused by the avoidance of any see other than one of the five sees aforesaid, such vacancy shall be supplied by the issue of a writ of summons to that bishop of a see in England who having been longest bishop of a see in England has not previously become entitled to such writ:

Provided, that where a bishop is translated from one see to another, and was at the date of his translation actually sitting as a Lord of Parliament, he shall not thereupon lose his right to receive a writ of summons to Parliament.

### Textual Amendments

F1 Words substituted by [Statute Law \(Repeals\) Act 1973 \(c. 39\), Sch. 2 para. 1](#)

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/02/1991.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Bishoprics Act 1878, Section 5.