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## **United Kingdom: proposal to make unrestricted abortion legal has been withdrawn. Mgr. Sherrington, “attempts at widening access” to termination**

Today, Mgr. John Sherrington, the bishop in charge of prolife matters at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, thanks “the thousands of people who made pressures on the Members of Parliament to prevent dangerous amendments to the bill of law from being passed into law”. This is written on the English Bishops' website the day after Parliament discussed amendments to the Nc5, the “Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts” Bill, including the one submitted by MP Diana Johnson which would have made the free choice of unrestricted abortion legal. As to this specific case, the bishop said he is glad about the “withdrawal of a proposed amendment” that, incidentally, “fell far outside the remit of such bill” and would “have swept away the few protective measures left for unborn babies, by making abortion on demand legal as well as repealing the doctors' option to claim conscientious objection”. The withdrawn amendments included one that established a sort of “free-trade area” around abortion clinics. “We must watch out for any attempts at widening access to abortion by making other laws deviate”.

Valentina Bombelli