Southampton International Boat Show Act 1997

1997 CHAPTER i

An Act to amend section 60 of the Hampshire Act 1983 to permit closure of Mayflower Park in Southampton or the restriction of public access to it for 10 rather than 9 consecutive days each year for the purposes of the Southampton International Boat Show; and for connected purposes.   [15th July 1997]

WHEREAS—

 (1) Mayflower Park is a park on the waterfront in the city of Southampton and has been used as the site of the annual Southampton International Boat Show ("the Show") since the Show's inception in 1969:

 (2) The use of public parks for such purposes is generally subject to a constraint, contained in section 44 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 as amended, whereby such parks cannot be closed for more than 6 days consecutively:

 (3) By section 60 of the Hampshire Act 1983, provision was made to enable Mayflower Park to be closed to the public or for public access to be restricted for the purposes of the Show for 9 consecutive days each year:

 (4) That provision has enabled the Show to encompass two whole weekends or to run from one Friday to the Saturday of the following week but does not enable the show to open on a Friday and then continue over two whole weekends:

 (5) It is now highly desirable if the potential of the Show is to be fully exploited and its international reputation sustained that the Show should be able to open for 10 consecutive days. This would allow in particular the Show to open and then continue over two weekends as happens with many international shows:

 (6) An increase by one day in the maximum length of the Show can be matched by an equivalent decrease in the maximum number of days permitted for the establishment and removal of the Show so as to maintain the maximum period of disruption currently permitted of 34 consecutive days:

 (7) The show makes a significant contribution to the economic prosperity and commercial reputation of the city of Southampton and is an important event for the recreational boat trade: