

Goodbye, your Lordships

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As [The Guardian has noted](#):

Hereditary peerages will be abolished before the next king's speech after a deal was struck granting life peerages to some Conservatives and cross-benchers losing their seats.

As they added:

On Tuesday evening the upper chamber accepted a final draft of the House of Lords (hereditary peers) bill, marking the end of its passage through parliament and clearing the way for it to be added to the statute book.

The Lords leader, Angela Smith, confirmed the government would offer life peerages to some of those who would otherwise lose their seats. As a result, the Tories withdrew their opposition to the bill.

They also explained:

Since 1999, up to 92 hereditary peers have been able to sit in the upper house and cast their votes in the lobbies but the bill effectively reduces this quota to zero.

Hereditary peers who have not been made life peers will no longer have a right to sit in the Lords once the current parliamentary session ends, expected later this spring.

So reform was 'bought' with what I think to be a corrupt offer of life peerages. That, in itself, spells out why the remaining Lords have to go. The Lords are a giant [rotten borough](#) which democracy cannot reach, and where votes can be bought.

Total abolition is required, alongside proportional representation for the Commons. If we wish to live in a democracy, nothing less will do.