**Cromwell’s relationship with the Protectorate Parliaments**

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|  | Date of opening/recess/closing | Key issues/divisions | Explain key issue/division and effects on Cromwell’s relationship with Parliament |
| First Protectorate Parliament | 3rd Sept 1654 | Religious liberty | *Parl disagree with OC – forced him to specify fundamentals because he was so concerned about their lack of religious tolerance. Presby in Parl wanted to control sects/ re-estab national Church/ generally restrict religious liberty – worsened relationship* |
| Date dissolved | 22nd Jan 1655  [dissolved early on the grounds that he was doing it by lunar months not calendar ones]  To ensure next govt more co-op OV passed 2 things:   1. proclamation to restrict relig liberty – dissenters disturbing church services would be prosecuted. 2. assess cut to 60K pm; army cut from 57 to 40,000 | Money | *From the beginning, MPs were only prepared to vote an assessment cut by another third, on the understanding that the army would be reduced in proportion. 20th Jan 1655 the MPs began to discuss the formation of a militia which might replace many of the army’s functions & resolved to deny use of it to the Protector/Council without Parliamentary permission – 2 days later Cromwell accused them of fomenting discord and dissolved them. Bad relationship* |
| Second Protectorate Parliament | 1656/1658  Sept 1656 | Fate of James Naylor | *OC opposed Parl decision to prosecute JN for blasphemy – MPs thought blasphemy acts too mild whereas OC thought they were adequate – OC worried that there was no check on Parl power to prosecute & feared for relig liberty. Affected OC relat with Parl & made him see need for 2nd chamber* |
| Date sent into recess | July 1657 | Decimation tax | *10% tax on Royalists with income of over £100 to fund MG & new local militias – contravened 1652 Act of Oblivion & not enough to cover costs. Not pop as highlighted govts dependence on military. Defeat of 2nd Bill to renew decimation was defeated [with OCs support] so that MG couldn’t continue.. sign that OC working with New Crom in Parl* |
|  |  | Humble Petition & Advice  - May to July 1657 Parl under HP&A | *Work of New Cromwell – modified the IoG & importantly offered OC the crown – relat with Parl improving But at expense of army. OC accepted it in modified form - Lambert left* |
| Second Protectorate Parliament recalled | Jan 1658 | Challenge to second chamber | *C’wealthsmen wanted single chamber – had a voice cos not excluded & many of OCs supporters in Upper House* |
| Date dissolved | Feb 1658 | Challenge from Commonwealthsmen | *Cwealthsment trying to separate loyalty of soldiers from Protectorate – led to OC dissolving Parl – relationship still poor* |