



Representation of the People Act 1983

1983 CHAPTER 2

PART I

PARLIAMENTARY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FRANCHISE AND ITS EXERCISE

Service qualifications and declarations for registration

15 Service declaration.

- (1) A service declaration shall be made only—
 - (a) by a person who has a service qualification, or
 - (b) subject to any prescribed conditions, by a person about to leave the United Kingdom in such circumstances as to acquire a service qualification.and a service declaration may be made by such a person notwithstanding the fact that by reason of his age he is not yet entitled to vote.
- (2) A service declaration made by a member of the forces or the wife or husband of such a member shall, if not cancelled, continue in force so long as the declarant has a service qualification, except in so far as regulations provide that the declaration shall cease to be in force on a change in the circumstances giving the service qualification.
- (3) A service declaration made by any other person shall be made with a view to registration in the register of electors—
 - (a) for a particular year; and
 - (b) with reference to the qualifying date for that register.
- (4) A service declaration made with reference to any qualifying date shall be made during the twelve months ending with that date, but shall not have effect if after it is made and before that date—
 - (a) the declarant ceases to have a service qualification; or
 - (b) the declarant cancels the declaration; or
 - (c) in so far as regulations so provide, there is a change in the circumstances giving the service qualification.

Status: Point in time view as at 30/09/1997. This version of this provision has been superseded.

Changes to legislation: Representation of the People Act 1983, Section 15 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 03 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- (5) No service declaration shall be specially made by a person for the purpose of local government elections, and any service declaration made for the purpose of parliamentary elections shall have effect also for the purpose of local government elections; but—
- (a) a service declaration may be made for the purpose of local government elections only by a person who is as a peer subject to a legal incapacity to vote at parliamentary elections [^{F1}, or by a relevant citizen of the Union]; and
 - (b) where so made, shall be marked to show that it is available for local government elections only, but shall in all other respects be the same as other service declarations.
- (6) If a person—
- (a) makes a service declaration declaring to more than one address, or
 - (b) makes more than one service declaration bearing the same date and declaring to different addresses,
- the declaration or declarations shall be void.
- (7) A service declaration may at any time be cancelled by the declarant and (subject to subsection (6) above) a service declaration bearing a later date shall without any express cancellation cancel a declaration bearing an earlier date [^{F2}unless the declarations are made with reference to different qualifying dates].

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in s. 15(5)(a) inserted (6.8.1995) by S.I. 1995/1948, regs. 1(2), 5(2), Sch. 2 paras. 4(b), 6

F2 Words substituted by Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50, SIF 42), s. 24, Sch. 4 para. 3

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Ss. 12–17 extended (N.I) (with modifications) by Elected Authorities (Northern Ireland) Act 1989 (c. 3, SIF 42), ss. 2, 13(6), Sch. 1 Pt. I

C2 Ss. 15-17 applied (with modifications) (17.2.1994) by S.I. 1994/342, regs. 1(2)(3), 2(2), 13(3)

Status:

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