
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1989 No. 2405

The Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989

PART IX

BANKRUPTCY

CHAPTER I

BANKRUPTCY PETITIONS; BANKRUPTCY ORDERS

Commencement and duration of bankruptcy; discharge

[^{F1}Duration

253.—(1) A bankrupt is discharged from bankruptcy at the end of the period of one year beginning with the date on which the bankruptcy commences.

^{F2}(2)

(3) On the application of the official receiver or the trustee of a bankrupt's estate, the High Court may order that the period specified in paragraph (1) shall cease to run until—

- (a) the end of a specified period, or
- (b) the fulfilment of a specified condition.

(4) The High Court may make an order under paragraph (3) only if satisfied that the bankrupt has failed or is failing to comply with an obligation under this Part.

(5) In paragraph (3)(b) “condition” includes a condition requiring that the High Court be satisfied of something.

(6) This Article is without prejudice to any power of the High Court to annul a bankruptcy order.

(7) Nothing in this Article applies to a bankrupt who is a solicitor.]

F1 Art. 253 substituted (27.3.2006) by *Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 2005* (S.I. 2005/1455 (N.I. 10)), arts. 1(3), 12(1) (with art. 4, Sch. 4 paras. 3-5); S.R. 2006/21, **art. 2** (with S.R. 2006/22, **arts. 2-7**)

F2 Art. 253(2) repealed (4.11.2020) by *Insolvency (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016* (c. 2), ss. 12, 28(2), **Sch. 4**; S.R. 2020/236, art. 2(b)(c) (with art. 3)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Art. 253 excluded (27.3.2006) by *Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 2005* (S.I. 2005/1455 (N.I. 10)), arts. 1(3), 12(3), Sch. 4 para. 3 (with art. 4); S.R. 2006/21, **art. 2** (with S.R. 2006/22, **arts. 2 - 7**)

Changes to legislation:

The Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, Section 253 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 July 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.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument amended by [1998 c. 11 s. 23 Sch. 5 Pt.1 Ch. 3 para. 40](#)
- Instrument amended (prosp) by [S.I. 1994/279 \(N.I.\) art. 26\(1\)Sch. 2 para. 15](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. 9 Pt. 2 para. 66 revoked by [1996 c. 23 s. 107\(2\)Sch. 4](#) (Amendment could not be applied. The relevant affected text is not available on [legislation.gov.uk](#))
- art. 2B inserted by [2016 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 2\(1\)](#)
- art. 208ZA applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2021/716, reg. 37A (as inserted) by [S.I. 2023/1399 reg. 12](#) (This amendment not applied to [Legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 208ZA is inserted by the Insolvency (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c. 2), s. 1(1) which is currently prospective.)
- art. 208ZA-208ZB inserted by [2016 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 1\(1\)](#)
- art. 208ZB applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2021/716, reg. 37A (as inserted) by [S.I. 2023/1399 reg. 12](#) (This amendment not applied to [Legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 208ZB is inserted by the Insolvency (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 (c. 2), s. 1(1) which is currently prospective.)
- art. 345A-345B inserted by [2016 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 1\(2\)](#)