



# Representation of the People Act 1985

## 1985 CHAPTER 50

### *Extension of franchise to British citizens overseas*

#### [<sup>F1</sup>1E **Renewal declaration**

- (1) A renewal declaration must—
  - (a) give the full name and date of birth of the person making the declaration (“the declarant”),
  - (b) state the date of the declaration,
  - (c) state that the declarant is a British citizen,
  - (d) state that the declarant is not resident in the United Kingdom on the date of the declaration,
  - (e) contain any other prescribed information and satisfy any other prescribed requirements, and
  - (f) state that the declarant believes the matters stated in the declaration to be true.
- (2) A renewal declaration must also—
  - (a) specify the address in respect of which the declarant is registered, and
  - (b) state that since the declarant was registered in respect of that address, no other entry has been made in respect of the declarant in any electoral register (whether in respect of the address mentioned in [paragraph \(a\)](#) or any other address).
- (3) A renewal declaration that specifies an address in Northern Ireland under [subsection \(2\)\(a\)](#) may, instead of or in addition to the statement under [subsection \(1\)\(c\)](#), state that the declarant is an Irish citizen who—
  - (a) was born in Northern Ireland, and
  - (b) qualifies as a British citizen (whether or not the declarant identifies as such),(and [section 1C\(9\)](#) applies as it applies for the purposes of [section 1C\(5\)](#)).
- (4) If the declarant—
  - (a) makes a renewal declaration that specifies more than one address under [subsection \(2\)\(a\)](#), or

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**Changes to legislation:** Representation of the People Act 1985, Section 1E is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 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. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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(b) makes two or more renewal declarations that bear the same date and specify different addresses under [subsection \(2\)\(a\)](#),  
the declaration or declarations are void.

(5) In this section—

“electoral register” has the same meaning as in [section 1A](#);

“registered” means registered in a register of parliamentary electors in pursuance of an overseas elector’s declaration.]

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#### Textual Amendments

**F1** Ss. 1-1E substituted for ss. 1, 2 (6.2.2023 for specified purposes) by [Elections Act 2022 \(c. 37\)](#), **ss. 14(1), 67(1)**; S.I. 2023/115, **reg. 2(b)(i)**

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

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

- s. 15(1)(d)(e) inserted by [2012 c. 11 s. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 15(3ZA) inserted by [2012 c. 11 s. 2\(4\)](#)