



Representation of the People Act 1985

1985 CHAPTER 50

Voting at parliamentary elections in the United Kingdom and local government elections in Great Britain

[^{F1}8 Proxies at elections.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, any person is capable of being appointed proxy to vote for another (in this section and section 9 of this Act referred to as “the elector”) at any parliamentary ^{F2} . . . election and may vote in pursuance of the appointment.
- (2) The elector cannot have more than one person at a time appointed as proxy to vote for him at parliamentary elections (whether in the same constituency or elsewhere).

[A person is not capable of being appointed to vote, or voting, as proxy at a ^{F3}(3) parliamentary election—

- (a) if he is subject to any legal incapacity (age apart) to vote at that election as an elector, or
- (b) if he is neither a Commonwealth citizen nor a citizen of the Republic of Ireland.

^{F4}(3A)]

- (4) A person is not capable of voting as proxy at [^{F5}a parliamentary ^{F6} . . .] election unless on the date of the poll he has attained the age of eighteen.
- (5) A person is not entitled to vote as proxy at the same parliamentary election in any constituency ^{F7} . . . on behalf of more than two electors of whom that person is not the husband, wife, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild.
- (6) Where the elector applies to the registration officer for the appointment of a proxy to vote for him at parliamentary elections ^{F8} . . . for an indefinite period, the registration officer shall make the appointment if the application meets the prescribed requirements and he is satisfied that the elector is or will be—
 - (a) registered in the register of [^{F9}parliamentary electors], and

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- (b) shown in the record kept under section 6 of this Act as voting by proxy at such elections,
and that the proxy is capable of being and willing to be appointed to vote as proxy at such elections.
- (7) Where the elector applies to the registration officer for the appointment of a proxy to vote for him at a particular parliamentary ^{F10} . . . election, the registration officer shall make the appointment if the application meets the prescribed requirements and he is satisfied that the elector is or will be—
- (a) registered in the register of parliamentary ^{F11} . . . electors for that election, and
(b) entitled to vote by proxy at that election by virtue of an application under section 7 of this Act,
and that the proxy is capable of being and willing to be appointed.
- (8) The appointment of a proxy under this section is to be made by means of a proxy paper issued by the registration officer.
- [The appointment may be cancelled by the elector by giving notice to the registration ^{F12}(9) officer, and shall also cease to be in force on the issue of a proxy paper appointing a different person to vote for him at any parliamentary election or elections (whether in the same constituency or elsewhere).]
- (10) Subject to subsection (9) above, the appointment shall remain in force—
- (a) in the case of an appointment for a particular election, for that election, and
(b) in any other case, while the elector is shown as voting by proxy in the record kept under section 6 of this Act in pursuance of the same application under that section.
- (11) . . . ^{F13}]

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 8 repealed (E.W.S.) (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15(2), **Sch. 7 Pt. II**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F2** Words in s. 8(1) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(2)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F3** S. 8(3)(3A) substituted for s. 8(3) (6.8.1995) by S.I. 1995/1948, reg. 5(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7**
- F4** S. 8(3A) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(3)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F5** Words in s. 8(4) substituted (6.8.1995) by S.I. 1995/1948, reg. 5(2), **Sch. 2 para. 8**
- F6** Words in s. 8(4) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(4)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F7** Words in s. 8(5) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, 17(3), **Sch. 6 para. 16(5)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F8** Words in s. 8(6) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(6)(a)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F9** Words in s. 8(6)(a) substituted (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15(1), **Sch. 6 para. 16(6)(b)**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F10** Words in s. 8(7) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(7)(a)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)
- F11** Words in s. 8(7)(a) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15, **Sch. 6 para. 16(7)(b)**, **Sch. 7 Pt. III**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in **art. 2(3)-(5)**)

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F12 S. 8(9) substituted (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 2, s. 15(1), **Sch. 6 para. 16(8)**; S.I. 2001/116, **art. 2(1)** (subject to transitional provisions in art. 2(3)-(5))

F13 S. 8(11) repealed by Finance Act 1985 (c.54, SIF 114), s. 98(6), **Sch. 27 Pt. IX(2)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 8 applied with modifications by S.I. 1986/2250, regs. 2, 3, 5, **Sch. 1 Pt. III**
S. 8 applied (with modifications) (4.5.1996) by S.I. 1996/1220, art. 3(1)(a)(b)(5)-(8), **Sch. 1**
S. 8 applied (with modifications) (31.7.1997) by 1997 c. 61, s. 3, **Sch. 3 para. 13** Table 3
S. 8 applied (with modifications) (19.3.1998) by S.I. 1998/746, art. 12, **Sch. 1** Table 3
S. 8 applied (with modifications) (22.5.1998) by S.I. 1998/1287, art. 3(1)(3), **Sch. 1**
S. 8 applied (with modifications) (25.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/1126, art. 6(1), **Sch. 2**
- C2** S. 8 modified (17.2.1994) by S.I. 1994/342, **regs. 2(2)**, 15(4), 16(5)

Status:

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