



# Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006

## 2006 CHAPTER 33

### PART 2

#### THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

#### 8 Tenure

- (1) The Chief Electoral Officer—
  - (a) is appointed by the Secretary of State, and
  - (b) subject to what follows, holds office in accordance with the terms of his appointment (or re-appointment).
- (2) A person must not be appointed as Chief Electoral Officer for more than 5 years at a time.
- (3) The period for which a person holds office as Chief Electoral Officer must not exceed 10 years.
- (4) The Chief Electoral Officer may resign by notice in writing to the Secretary of State.
- (5) The Secretary of State may dismiss the Chief Electoral Officer if satisfied that—
  - (a) he has without reasonable excuse failed to discharge his functions for a continuous period of 3 months beginning not earlier than 6 months before the day of dismissal,
  - (b) he has been convicted of an offence,
  - (c) a bankruptcy order has been made against him, or his estate has been sequestrated, or he has made a composition or arrangement with, or granted a trust deed for, his creditors, or
  - (d) he is unable or unfit to carry out his functions.
- (6) This section applies in relation to the person who at commencement holds the office of Chief Electoral Officer as if—

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (a) subsection (2) required his appointment to end no later than 5 years after commencement, and
  - (b) the total period which under subsection (3) must not be exceeded were 10 years plus the period of his appointment before commencement.
- (7) “Commencement” means the commencement of this section.
- (8) In this Part “Chief Electoral Officer” has the meaning given by section 14(1) of the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 (c. 14 (N. I.)).

## **9 Annual reports**

- (1) The Chief Electoral Officer must each year—
- (a) prepare a report on how he has discharged his functions in the year to which the report relates, and
  - (b) send a copy of the report to the Secretary of State by such date as the Secretary of State directs.
- (2) The report must include an assessment of the extent to which the relevant registration objectives in Northern Ireland have been met in the year to which the report relates.
- (3) “The relevant registration objectives” has the meaning given by section 10ZB of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2).
- (4) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the report before each House of Parliament.