



Representation of the People Act 1989

1989 CHAPTER 28

An Act to amend the law relating to the entitlement of British citizens resident outside the United Kingdom to vote at parliamentary elections and elections to the European Parliament and to increase the maximum amount of candidates' election expenses at parliamentary by-elections. [27th July 1989]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Act: power to modify conferred by [Government of Wales Act 2006 \(c. 32\), s. 4\(4\)](#), the amending provision coming into force immediately after "the 2007 election" (held on 3.5.2007) subject to s. 161(4)(5) of the amending Act, which provides for certain provisions to come into force for specified purposes immediately after the end of "the initial period" (which ended with the day of the first appointment of a First Minister on 25.5.2007) - see ss. 46, 161(1)(4)(5) of the amending Act (with Sch. 11 para. 22).
- C2** Act: power to modify conferred by [Government of Wales Act 2006 \(c. 32\), s. 13\(4\)\(5\)](#), the amending provision coming into force immediately after "the 2007 election" (held on 3.5.2007) subject to s. 161(4)(5) of the amending Act, which provides for certain provisions to come into force for specified purposes immediately after the end of "the initial period" (which ended with the day of the first appointment of a First Minister on 25.5.2007) - see ss. 46, 161(1)(4)(5) of the amending Act (with Sch. 11 para. 22).
- C3** Act: power to amend conferred (1.1.2007) by [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\), ss. 72, 77](#); [S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 10](#) (subject to [art. 6](#) and with transitional provisions in [Sch. 2](#))
- C4** Act: [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\), s. 46\(1\)-\(4\)](#) to be construed as one with this Act (1.1.2007 for E.W.S. and 1.7.2008 for N.I.) by virtue of [Electoral Administration Act 2006 \(c. 22\), ss. 46\(5\), 77](#); [S.I. 2006/3412, art. 3, Sch. 1 para. 14\(v\)](#) (subject to [art. 6](#) and with transitional provisions in [Sch. 2](#)); [S.I. 2008/1316, art. 2\(2\), 4\(s\)](#)
- C5** Act: power to apply or incorporate (with modifications) conferred (15.9.2011) by [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(c. 13\), s. 58\(1\)-\(3\), \(7\), 157\(3\)\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Representation of the People Act 1989. (See end of Document for details)

- C6 Act: power to apply or incorporate (with modifications) conferred (25.4.2012) by [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 \(c. 13\), s. 54\(2\)-\(5\)](#), 157(1); S.I. 2012/1129, art. 2(b)
- C7 Act: power to apply (with modifications) conferred by 1998 c. 46, s. 12(4)(5) (as substituted (18.5.2017) by [Scotland Act 2016 \(c. 11\), ss. 4\(1\), 72\(4\)\(a\)](#); S.I. 2017/608, reg. 2(1)(b))

Further provisions about enfranchisement of British citizens overseas

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Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 1-4 repealed (29.1.2001 for specified purposes otherwise 16.2.2001) by [2000 c. 2, s. 15\(2\), Sch. 7; S.I. 2001/116, art. 2\(1\)\(2\)](#)

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Textual Amendments

F2 Ss. 1-4 repealed (29.1.2001 for specified purposes otherwise 16.2.2001) by [2000 c. 2, s. 15\(2\), Sch. 7 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/116, art. 2\(1\)\(2\)](#)

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Textual Amendments

F3 Ss. 1-4 repealed (29.1.2001 for specified purposes otherwise 16.2.2001) by [2000 c. 2, s. 15\(2\), Sch. 7 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/116, art. 2\(1\)\(2\)](#)

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Textual Amendments

F4 Ss. 1-4 repealed (29.1.2001 for specified purposes otherwise 16.2.2001) by [2000 c. 2, s. 15\(2\), Sch. 7 Pt. I; S.I. 2001/116, art. 2\(1\)\(2\)](#)

5 Annual reminders to overseas electors.

In Schedule 2 to the Representation of the ^{M1}People Act 1983 (provisions that may be contained in regulations about registration), after paragraph 2 there is inserted—

“2A Provisions requiring registration officers to remind persons registered in pursuance of overseas electors’ declarations in a register of parliamentary

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electors of the need to make fresh declarations in order to be so registered in the subsequent register.”

Marginal Citations

M1 1983 c. 2.

Election expenses

6 Increase of limits on expenses of candidates at parliamentary by-elections.

(1) In section 76(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (limitation of election expenses)—

(a) in paragraph (a), for “parliamentary election” there is substituted “parliamentary general election, being an election”, and

^{F5}(b)

^{F5}(2)

Textual Amendments

F5 S. 6(1)(b)(2) repealed (16.2.2001) by 2000 c. 41, s. 158(2), **Sch. 22** (with s. 156(6)); S.I. 2001/222, art. 2, **Sch. 1 Pt. I** Annex

General

7 Expenses.

(1) There shall be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund any increase attributable to this Act in the sums to be charged on and paid out of that Fund under any other Act.

(2) There shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament—

(a) any increase attributable to this Act in the sums to be paid out of money so provided under any other Act, and

(b) any administrative expenses incurred by the Secretary of State in consequence of this Act.

8 Short title, commencement and extent.

(1) This Act may be cited as the Representation of the People Act 1989 and shall be included among the Acts that may be cited as the Representation of the People Acts.

(2) This Act shall come into force on such day as the Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument appoint, and different days may be appointed for different provisions and for different purposes.

(3) This Act extends to Northern Ireland.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Representation of the People Act 1989. (See end of Document for details)

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Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C8 Power of appointment conferred by s. 8(2) fully exercised: [S.I. 1989/1318](#), 1990/519

Changes to legislation:

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