



Ballot Secrecy Act 2023

2023 CHAPTER 12

PROSPECTIVE

2 Amendment of Northern Ireland legislation

- (1) In the Electoral Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 (c. 14 (N.I.))—
- (a) in section 111, in subsection (2A), after paragraph (c) insert—
 - “(ca) in the case of an offence under paragraph 26A of Schedule 9, on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to both;”;
 - (b) in Part 3 of Schedule 9, after paragraph 26 insert—
 - “26A (1) A person who—
 - (a) is with another person at a polling booth, and
 - (b) intends to influence that other person to vote in a particular way or to refrain from voting,commits an offence.
 - (2) A person who—
 - (a) is near a polling booth when another person is at that booth, and
 - (b) intends to influence that other person to vote in a particular way or to refrain from voting,commits an offence.
 - (3) For the purposes of this paragraph—
 - (a) a “polling booth” is a compartment in a polling station in which voters can mark votes screened from observation;
 - (b) assisting a person with voting, in accordance with rule 36 of Schedule 5 or any other legislation, is not influencing that person to vote in a particular way or to refrain from voting;

Status: This version of this provision is prospective.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Ballot Secrecy Act 2023, Section 2. (See end of Document for details)

(c) a person may be near one polling booth while at a different polling booth.”

(2) In Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 2001 ([S.I. 2001/2599](#)), in the table, before the entry for section 63 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 insert—

“Section 62C (influencing voters at polling booths)”.

Commencement Information

11 S. 2 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 3\(4\)](#)

Status:

This version of this provision is prospective.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Ballot Secrecy Act 2023, Section 2.