

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **SCOTTISH GENERAL ELECTION (CORONAVIRUS) ACT 2021**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE ACT**

#### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

##### *Application of Act*

Section 1: Application of this Act to 2021 election

##### **Disapplication of existing law**

Section 2: Disapplication of section 2 of Scotland Act 1998

##### **Postal voting arrangements**

Section 3: Closing date for application to vote by post or amend existing absent vote arrangements

Section 4: Report on uptake of postal voting at closing date

Section 5: Power to provide for all-postal vote

##### **Other arrangements for 2021 election**

Section 6: Dissolution of current Parliament

Section 7: Dissolution of current Parliament: consequential modifications

Section 8: Power to provide for polling on additional days

##### **Arrangements for new Parliament**

Section 9: First meeting of new Parliament and choice of new First Minister

Section 10: Election of new Presiding Officer

##### **Reserve power of Presiding Officer to postpone 2021 election**

Section 11: Power of Presiding Officer to postpone election

##### **Supplementary**

Section 12: Effect of Act on existing power to make provision about elections

*These notes relate to the Scottish General Election (Coronavirus) Act 2021 (asp 5)*

### **Final provisions**

Section 13: Interpretation

Section 14: Ancillary provision

Section 15: Commencement

Section 16: Short title

### **PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY**