



Peerage Act 1963

1963 CHAPTER 48

Disclaimer of Peerage

1 Disclaimer of certain hereditary peerages.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, any person who, after the commencement of this Act, succeeds to a peerage in the peerage of England, Scotland, Great Britain or the United Kingdom may, by an instrument of disclaimer delivered to the Lord Chancellor within the period prescribed by this Act, disclaim that peerage for his life.
- (2) Any instrument of disclaimer to be delivered under this section in respect of a peerage shall be delivered within the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which the person disclaiming succeeds to that peerage or, if he is under the age of twenty-one when he so succeeds, the period of twelve months beginning with the day on which he attains that age; and no such instrument shall be delivered in respect of a peerage by a person who [^{F1}is excepted from section 1 of the House of Lords Act 1999 by virtue of section 2 of that Act].
- (3) The foregoing provisions of this section shall apply to a person who has succeeded to a peerage before the commencement of this Act as they apply to a person who succeeds to a peerage after the commencement of this Act, but subject to the following modifications:—
 - (a) the period within which an instrument of disclaimer may be delivered by such a person shall be twelve months beginning with the commencement of this Act or, if he is then under twenty-one years of age, twelve months beginning with the day on which he attains that age; ^{F2} . . .
 - ^{F2}(b)
- (4) In reckoning any period prescribed by this section for the delivery of an instrument of disclaimer by any person no account shall be taken of any time during which that person is shown to the satisfaction of the Lord Chancellor to have been subject to any infirmity of body or mind rendering him incapable of exercising or determining whether to exercise his rights under this section.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects
for the Peerage Act 1963, Section 1. (See end of Document for details)*

- (5) The provisions of Schedule 1 to this Act shall have effect with respect to the form of instruments of disclaimer under this section, and the delivery, certification and registration of such instruments.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 1(2) substituted (11.11.1999) by 1999 c. 34, ss. 4(1), 5(1), **Sch. 1 para. 1**
- F2** S. 1(3)(b) and the word “and” immediately preceding repealed (11.11.1999) by 1999 c. 34, ss. 4(2), 5(1), **Sch. 2**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Peerage Act 1963, Section 1.