



Northern Ireland Act 1998

1998 CHAPTER 47

PART II

LEGISLATIVE POWERS

Scrutiny and stages of Bills

11 Scrutiny by the [^{F1}Supreme Court].

- (1) The [^{F2}Advocate General for Northern Ireland or the] Attorney General for Northern Ireland may refer the question of whether a provision of a Bill would be within the legislative competence of the Assembly to the [^{F3}Supreme Court] for decision.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), he may make a reference in relation to a provision of a Bill at any time during—
 - (a) the period of four weeks beginning with the passing of the Bill; and
 - (b) the period of four weeks beginning with any subsequent approval of the Bill in accordance with standing orders made by virtue of section 13(6).
- (3) If he notifies the Presiding Officer that he does not intend to make a reference in relation to a provision of a Bill, he shall not make such a reference unless, after the notification, the Bill is approved as mentioned in subsection (2)(b).
- (4) If the [^{F4}Supreme Court decides] that any provision of a Bill would be within the legislative competence of the Assembly, [^{F5}its decision] shall be taken as applying also to that provision if contained in the Act when enacted.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in sidenote of s. 11 substituted (1.10.2009) by virtue of [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 40, 148, [Sch. 9 para. 109\(1\)](#); S.I. 2009/1604, [art. 2\(a\)\(d\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 11(1) inserted (12.4.2010) by [Justice \(Northern Ireland\) Act 2002 \(c. 26\)](#), s. 87(1), [Sch. 7 para. 1\(2\)](#); S.R. 2010/113, [art. 2](#), [Sch. para. 19\(a\)](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Northern Ireland Act 1998, Section 11. (See end of Document for details)

- F3** Words in s. 11(1) substituted (1.10.2009) by Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4), ss. 40, 148, **Sch. 9 para. 109(2)**; S.I. 2009/1604, **art. 2(a)(d)**
- F4** Words in s. 11(4) substituted (1.10.2009) by Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4), ss. 40, 148, **Sch. 9 para. 109(3)(a)**; S.I. 2009/1604, **art. 2(a)(d)**
- F5** Words in s. 11(4) substituted (1.10.2009) by Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4), ss. 40, 148, **Sch. 9 para. 109(3)(b)**; S.I. 2009/1604, **art. 2(a)(d)**

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