



# Northern Ireland (Monitoring Commission etc.) Act 2003

## 2003 CHAPTER 25

### *Other provisions*

#### **9 Censure resolutions**

After section 51C of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (c. 47) there is inserted—

##### **“51D Censure resolutions**

- (1) This section applies to the following resolutions of the Assembly—
  - (a) a resolution censuring a Minister or junior Minister—
    - (i) because he is not committed to non-violence and exclusively peaceful and democratic means; or
    - (ii) because of any failure of his to observe any other terms of the pledge of office;
  - (b) a resolution censuring a political party—
    - (i) because it is not committed to non-violence and exclusively peaceful and democratic means; or
    - (ii) because it is not committed to such of its members as are or might become Ministers or junior Ministers observing the other terms of the pledge of office.
- (2) A motion for a resolution to which this section applies shall not be moved unless—
  - (a) it is supported by at least 30 members of the Assembly;
  - (b) it is moved by the First Minister and the deputy First Minister acting jointly; or
  - (c) it is moved by the Presiding Officer in pursuance of a notice under subsection (3).

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (3) If the Secretary of State is of the opinion that the Assembly ought to consider a resolution to which this section applies, he shall serve a notice on the Presiding Officer requiring him to move a motion for such a resolution.
- (4) In forming an opinion under subsection (3), the Secretary of State shall in particular take into account the matters listed in section 30(7).
- (5) A resolution to which this section applies shall not be passed without cross-community support.”