



Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 2

An Act to exclude from the operation of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 certain matters relating to the selection of candidates by political parties. [26th February 2002]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Textual Amendments

F1 Act expires at the end of 2015 by virtue of s. 3(1) of the Act unless an order is made under that section.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Act: functions transferred (12.10.2007) by [The Transfer of Functions \(Equality\) Order 2007 \(S.I. 2007/2914\)](#), [art. 3\(2\)\(d\)](#)

C2 Act: transfer of functions (18.8.2010) by [Transfer of Functions \(Equality\) Order 2010 \(S.I. 2010/1839\)](#), [arts. 1\(2\)](#), [3\(1\)\(d\)](#)

^{F2}1 **Exclusion of candidate selection from 1975 Act**

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Textual Amendments

F2 S. 1 repealed (1.10.2010) by [Equality Act 2010 \(c. 15\)](#), s. 216(3), [Sch. 27 Pt. 1](#) (with ss. 6(4), 205); [S.I. 2010/2317](#), [art. 2\(15\)\(f\)](#) (with arts. 4-25, 15, Schs. 1-16)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002. (See end of Document for details)

2 Exclusion of candidate selection from 1976 Order

At the beginning of Part 6 of the Sex Discrimination (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 (S.I.1976/1042 (N.I. 15)) insert—

“43A Selection of election candidates

- (1) Nothing in Parts 3 to 5 shall—
 - (a) be construed as affecting arrangements to which this Article applies, or
 - (b) render unlawful anything done in accordance with such arrangements.
- (2) This Article applies to arrangements made by a registered political party which—
 - (a) regulate the selection of the party’s candidates in a relevant election, and
 - (b) are adopted for the purpose of reducing inequality in the numbers of men and women elected, as candidates of the party, to be members of the body concerned.
- (3) The following elections are relevant elections for the purposes of this Article—
 - (a) parliamentary elections;
 - (b) elections to the European Parliament;
 - (c) elections to the Northern Ireland Assembly;
 - (d) elections to a district council.
- (4) In this Article “registered political party” means a party registered in the Northern Ireland register under Part 2 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41).”.

3 Expiry

- (1) This Act shall expire at the end of [F³2030] unless an order is made under this section.
- (2) At any time before this Act expires the [F⁴Secretary of State] may by order provide that subsection (1) shall have effect with the substitution of a later time for the time specified there (whether originally or by virtue of a previous order).
- (3) An order under this section shall be made by statutory instrument; but no order shall be made unless a draft has been laid before, and approved by resolution of, each House of Parliament.

Textual Amendments

- F3** Word in s. 3(1) substituted (1.10.2010 for specified purposes, 1.10.2012 in so far as not already in force) by Equality Act 2010 (c. 15), ss. 105(3), 216(3) (with ss. 6(4), 100, 105(4), 205); S.I. 2010/2317, art. 2(7)(a) (with arts. 4-25, Schs. 1-8) (as amended (1.10.2010) by S.I. 2010/2337, art. 2); S.I. 2012/1569, art. 3(b)
- F4** Words in s. 3(2) substituted (18.8.2010) by Transfer of Functions (Equality) Order 2010 (S.I. 2010/1839), art. 1(2), Sch. para. 5

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002. (See end of Document for details)*

4 Short title and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002.
- (2) Section 1 does not extend to Northern Ireland, and section 2 extends only to Northern Ireland.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Sex Discrimination (Election Candidates) Act 2002.