



# Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

## 1992 CHAPTER 52

### PART I

#### TRADE UNIONS

#### CHAPTER VI

##### APPLICATION OF FUNDS FOR POLITICAL OBJECTS

##### *Political resolution*

#### **75 Appointment of independent scrutineer.**

- (1) The trade union shall, before the ballot is held, appoint a qualified independent person (“the scrutineer”) to carry out—
  - (a) the functions in relation to the ballot which are required under this section to be contained in his appointment; and
  - (b) such additional functions in relation to the ballot as may be specified in his appointment.
- (2) A person is a qualified independent person in relation to a ballot if—
  - (a) he satisfies such conditions as may be specified for the purposes of this section by order of the Secretary of State or is himself so specified; and
  - (b) the trade union has no grounds for believing either that he will carry out any functions conferred on him in relation to the ballot otherwise than competently or that his independence in relation to the union, or in relation to the ballot, might reasonably be called into question.

An order under paragraph (a) shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.

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**Changes to legislation:** Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, Section 75 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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- (3) The scrutineer’s appointment shall require him—
- (a) to be the person who supervises the production [<sup>F1</sup>of the voting papers and (unless he is appointed under section 77A to undertake the distribution of the voting papers) their distribution] and to whom the voting papers are returned by those voting;
- <sup>F2</sup>[(aa) to—
- (i) inspect the register of names and addresses of the members of the trade union, or
  - (ii) examine the copy of the register as at the relevant date which is supplied to him in accordance with subsection (5A)(a),
- whenever it appears to him appropriate to do so and, in particular, when the conditions specified in subsection (3A) are satisfied;]
- (b) to take such steps as appear to him to be appropriate for the purpose of enabling him to make his report (see section 78);
  - (c) to make his report to the trade union as soon as reasonably practicable after the last date for the return of voting papers; and
  - (d) to retain custody of all voting papers returned for the purposes of the ballot [<sup>F3</sup>and the copy of the register supplied to him in accordance with subsection (5A)(a)]—
    - (i) until the end of the period of one year beginning with the announcement by the union of the result of the ballot; and
    - (ii) if within that period an application is made under section 79 (complaint of failure to comply with ballot rules), until the Certification Officer or the court authorises him to dispose of the papers [<sup>F4</sup>or copy].
- <sup>F5</sup>[(3A) The conditions referred to in subsection (3)(aa) are—
- (a) that a request that the scrutineer inspect the register or examine the copy is made to him during the appropriate period by a member of the trade union who suspects that the register is not, or at the relevant date was not, accurate and up-to-date, and
  - (b) that the scrutineer does not consider that the member’s suspicion is ill-founded.
- (3B) In subsection (3A) “the appropriate period” means the period—
- (a) beginning with the day on which the scrutineer is appointed, and
  - (b) ending with the day before the day on which the scrutineer makes his report to the trade union.
- (3C) The duty of confidentiality as respects the register is incorporated in the scrutineer’s appointment.]
- (4) The trade union shall ensure that nothing in the terms of the scrutineer’s appointment (including any additional functions specified in the appointment) is such as to make it reasonable for any person to call the scrutineer’s independence in relation to the union into question.
  - (5) The trade union shall, before the scrutineer begins to carry out his functions, either—
    - (a) send a notice stating the name of the scrutineer to every member of the union to whom it is reasonably practicable to send such a notice, or

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- (b) take all such other steps for notifying members of the name of the scrutineer as it is the practice of the union to take when matters of general interest to all its members need to be brought to their attention.

<sup>F6</sup>[(5A) The trade union shall—

- (a) supply to the scrutineer as soon as is reasonably practicable after the relevant date a copy of the register of names and addresses of its members as at that date, and
- (b) comply with any request made by the scrutineer to inspect the register.

(5B) Where the register is kept by means of a computer the duty imposed on the trade union by subsection (5A)(a) is either to supply a legible printed copy or (if the scrutineer prefers) to supply a copy of the computer data and allow the scrutineer use of the computer to read it at any time during the period when he is required to retain custody of the copy.]

- (6) The trade union shall ensure that the scrutineer duly carries out his functions and that there is no interference with his carrying out of those functions which would make it reasonable for any person to call the scrutineer’s independence in relation to the union into question.
- (7) The trade union shall comply with all reasonable requests made by the scrutineer for the purposes of, or in connection with, the carrying out of his functions.

<sup>F7</sup>[(8) In this section “the relevant date” means—

- (a) where the trade union has rules determining who is entitled to vote in the ballot by reference to membership on a particular date, that date, and
- (b) otherwise, the date, or the last date, on which voting papers are distributed for the purposes of the ballot.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 75(3)(a) substituted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(a)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F2** S. 75(3)(aa) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(b)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch.1**
- F3** Words in s. 75(3)(d) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(c)(i)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch.1**
- F4** Words in s. 75(3)(d)(ii) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(c)(ii)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F5** S. 75(3A)-(3C) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(d)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch.1**
- F6** S. 75(5A)(5B) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(e)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**
- F7** S. 75(8) inserted (30.8.1993) by 1993 c. 19, s. 3, **Sch. 1 para. 2(f)**; S.I. 1993/1908, art. 2(1), **Sch. 1**

**Changes to legislation:**

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 212A(1)(zb) inserted by [2023 c. 46 Sch. para. 1](#)