EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations amend the Representation of the People Regulations, 1950. Regulations 1, 3, 4 and 7 provide that at parliamentary elections the last day for applications to vote by post or to appoint a proxy or to cancel such applications shall be altered from the last day for the delivery of nomination papers to the twelfth day before the day of the poll. At local government elections the last day for such applications or cancellations remains unaltered. Regulations 2 and 5 provide for the supply of copies of the absent voters list and the postal proxies list for the use of candidates at parliamentary and local government elections. Regulation 6 substitutes a reference to the Registrar-General in place of the central national registration officer in Regulation 61 of the Representation of the People Regulations, 1950.

1953 No. 1108

The Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1953

Made - - - -	*24th April*, 1953
Coming into Operation	*30th July*, 1953

In pursuance of the powers conferred on me by section forty-two and subsection (5) of section one hundred and seventy-one of the Representation of the People Act, 1949(**a**), I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) For paragraph (2) of Regulation 25 of the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1950(**b**) (which Regulation relates to applications to be treated as an absent voter), there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

"(2) An application to be so treated shall be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election:

Provided that an application on the grounds of the applicant's employment on the day of the poll by a returning officer or as a constable may be allowed after the said twelfth day.".

(2) For paragraph (3) of the said Regulation 25 there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

"(3) An application to be no longer so treated may be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election.".

2. After paragraph (4) of Regulation 26 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to the record and list of absent voters) there shall be added the following paragraph:—

"(5) As soon as practicable after the preparation of the absent voters list, the registration officer shall, on request and without fee, supply to each candidate or his election agent a copy of the absent voters list:

(a) 12, 13 & 14 Geo. 6. c. 68. (b) S.I. 1950/1255; Rev. XX, p. 105; 1950 II, p. 609.

Provided that if such a request is made before any issue of ballot papers to those entitled to vote by post, the registration officer shall supply a copy of the said list, or a copy of so much of the said list as relates to that issue, before that issue.".

3.—(1) For paragraph (3) of Regulation 30 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to the cancellation and disregard of proxy appointments) there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

" (3) An application for the issue of a proxy paper shall be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election.".

(2) For paragraph (4) of the said Regulation 30 there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

" (4) A notice cancelling the appointment of a proxy may be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election.".

4.—(1) For paragraph (2) of Regulation 32 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to applications by proxies to vote by post) there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

" (2) Such an application shall be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election:

Provided that if under the proviso to paragraph (2) of Regulation 25 of these Regulations the applicant becomes entitled to vote by post as an absent voter after the said twelfth day, such an application may be allowed after the said twelfth day.".

(2) In paragraph (4) of the said Regulation 32 for the words " may, if it is received by the registration officer after the last day for the delivery of nomination papers at an election, be disregarded for the purposes of that election " there shall be substituted the words " may be disregarded for the purposes of an election if it is received by the registration officer after the twelfth day before the day of the poll at that election ".

5. After paragraph (4) of Regulation 33 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to the record and list of postal proxies) there shall be added the following paragraph :—

" (5) As soon as practicable after the preparation of the postal proxies list, the registration officer shall, on request and without fee, supply to each candidate or his election agent a copy of the postal proxies list:

Provided that if such a request is made before any issue of ballot papers to those entitled to vote by post, the registration officer shall supply a copy of the said list or a copy of so much of the said list as relates to that issue, before that issue.".

6.—(1) In paragraph (1) of Regulation 61 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to service declarations) for the words " or from the central national registration officer " there shall be substituted the words " or from the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England ".

(2) Paragraph (2) of the said Regulation 61 is hereby revoked.

7. For Regulation 69 of the said Regulations (which Regulation relates to the computation of time) there shall be substituted the following Regulation:—

"69.—(1) Subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs of this Regulation, where the last day of the time allowed by these Regulations for any matter falls on a Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday, bank holiday or day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning, that time shall be extended until the end of the next following day which is not one of the days before mentioned.

(2) In computing for the purposes of Regulations 25, 30 and 32 of these Regulations the period of twelve days before the day of the poll at an election a Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday, bank holiday or day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning shall be disregarded.

(3) For the purposes of this Regulation the expression "bank holiday"—

(*a*) in paragraph (1) of this Regulation means a day which is a bank holiday under the Bank Holidays Act, 1871(**a**), in Northern Ireland, and

(*b*) in paragraph (2) of this Regulation has the same meaning as in Rule 2 of the parliamentary elections rules in the Second Schedule to the Act.".

8.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation fourteen days after they have been approved by both Houses of Parliament.

(2) These Regulations may be cited as the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1953.

(3) These Regulations shall only apply to Northern Ireland.

David Maxwell Fyfe,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
24th April, 1953.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations amend the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1950. Regulations 1, 3, 4 and 7 provide that the last day for applications to vote by post or to appoint a proxy or to cancel such applications shall be altered from the last day for the delivery of nomination papers to the twelfth day before the day of the poll. Regulations 2 and 5 provide for the supply of copies of the absent voters list and the postal proxies list for the use of candidates. Regulation 6 substitutes a reference to the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England in place of the central national registration officer in Regulation 61 of the Representation of the People (Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1950.

(a) 34 & 35 Vict. c. 17.