



House of Commons

Wednesday 24 October 2018

PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

OVERSEAS ELECTORS BILL

[SECOND SITTING]

GLOSSARY

This document shows the fate of each clause, schedule, amendment and new clause.

The following terms are used:

Agreed to: agreed without a vote.

Agreed to on division: agreed following a vote.

Negatived: rejected without a vote.

Negatived on division: rejected following a vote.

Not called: debated in a group of amendments, but not put to a decision.

Not moved: not debated or put to a decision.

Question proposed: debate underway but not concluded.

Withdrawn after debate: moved and debated but then withdrawn, so not put to a decision.

Not selected: not chosen for debate by the Chair.

Clause 1.

Amendment (No. 2) proposed, in page 2, line 39, at end, to insert ““resident” must be defined in regulations made by the Minister for the Cabinet Office or the Secretary of State”.—(*Mr Christian Matheson*).

Question proposed, That the Amendment be made.

Withdrawn after debate

Alex Norris

Negatived on division **36**

Clause 1, page 3, leave out lines 5 to 8 insert—

“(3) The second condition is that the person making the declaration (“the declarant”) proves that they qualify as an overseas elector in respect of the constituency by providing valid supporting documentation to the registration officer.

(3A) Valid supporting documentation for the purposes of proving qualification for the previous registration condition are—

Overseas Electors Bill, *continued*

- (a) a poll card, or
 - (b) a letter from the appropriate local authority stating that the person was on the electoral roll at the appropriate time.
- (3B) Valid supporting documentation for the purposes of proving qualification for the previous residence condition must include—
- (a) one document from List A, or
 - (b) two documents from List B.
- (3C) For the purposes of subsection (3B), List A documents include but are not limited to—
- household utility bill (such as gas, electric, water or telephone);
 - full UK photocard driving licence with signature or ‘old style’ driving licence (including provisional or expired licences);
 - bank, building society or credit card statement, or bank or building society passbook;
 - local authority tax bill (e.g. council tax bill);
 - local authority rent book;
 - solicitor’s letter confirming house purchase or land registry confirmation, or an official copy of the land register or other proof of title;
 - HM Revenue & Customs (Inland Revenue) tax document such as a tax assessment, statement of account or notice of coding;
 - original notification letter from the relevant benefits agency confirming entitlement to benefits or the state pension;
 - pension or benefit correspondence from the Department for Work and Pensions;
 - instrument of a court appointment, e.g. probate or court-registered power of attorney.
- (3D) For the purposes of subsection (3B), List B documents include but are not limited to—
- payslip;
 - employment document, such offer of employment or reference;
 - school, college or university (or UCAS) document, such as offer of a place, or confirmation of attendance;
 - insurance documents, such as full insurance schedule, or letter confirming insurance cover;
 - student loans company letter;
 - mobile telephone bill;
 - other evidence prescribed in guidance given by the Minister.
- (3E) To be valid supporting documentation, a document must contain both a date (which can be earlier than the date the declarant left the address concerned) and the declarant’s declared last address in the United Kingdom.”

Alex Norris

Withdrawn after debate 37

Clause 1, page 3, line 23, at end insert—

- “(5A) An overseas elector’s declaration shall be disregarded for the purposes of registration to vote in a particular parliamentary election if it received by the registration officer after 5pm on the nineteenth day before the date of the poll at that election.”

Overseas Electors Bill, continued

Christian Matheson

Negated on division 3

Clause 1, page 3, line 34, after “name” insert “and date of birth”

Christian Matheson

Not called 4

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state either the declarant’s National Insurance number or the reason the declarant is unable to provide his or her National Insurance number,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 5

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state any previous full names held by the declarant in the period since they were last resident in the United Kingdom or registered and the reasons for any changes of name,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 6

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state the number and date of issue of a British passport held by the declarant or, if the declarant no longer holds a British passport, prescribed information relating to the nationality of the declarant,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 7

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state a telephone number for the declarant,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 8

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state an email address for the declarant,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 9

Clause 1, page 3, line 35, at end insert—

“(aa) state the declarant’s preferred means of contact by the registration officer.””

Christian Matheson

Not called 10

Clause 1, page 3, line 38, leave out “that the declarant is not resident in the United Kingdom” and insert “state the country of residence of the declarant, and how long they have lived there,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 11

Clause 1, page 3, line 42, at end insert—

“(ea) state that the declarant is aware of the voting offences under sections 60 and 61 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and associated punishments under sections 168 and 169 of that Act,”

Overseas Electors Bill, *continued*

Christian Matheson

Not called 12

- Clause 1, page 3, line 42, at end insert—
 “(ea) state whether the declarant intends to make absent voting arrangements or to vote in person at a polling station,”

Alex Norris

Negated on division 38

- Clause 1, page 3, line 44, leave out from first “requirements” to end of paragraph and insert—
 “(fa) contain a valid attestation of identity under section [*Attestation of identity*],”

Alex Norris

Negated on division 39

- Clause 1, page 4, line 48, at end insert—

“1CA Attestation of identity

- (1) A valid attestation of identity must contain attestations from two attestors.
- (2) The first attestor must be a registered elector resident in the constituency in which the declarant wishes to be registered.
- (3) The second attestor must be a registered overseas elector.
- (4) An attestor must not be the spouse, civil partner, parent, grandparent, brother, sister, child or grandchild of the declarant.
- (5) An attestation must—
 - (a) be in writing and signed by the attestor,
 - (b) swear that, to the best of the attestor’s knowledge, the declarant is the person named in the declaration,
 - (c) state the attestor’s British passport number together with its date of issue,
 - (d) be dated on the date on which the attestation is made,
 - (e) confirm that the person attestor is aware of the offence, under section 13D of the Representation of the People Act 1983, of providing false information to a registration officer, and
 - (f) confirm that the attestor is a person of good standing in the community
- (6) For the purposes of paragraph (5)(f), examples of a person of good standing in the community include, but are not limited to, the following or their local equivalents—
 - accountant
 - airline pilot
 - articled clerk of a limited company
 - assurance agent of recognised company
 - bank or building society official
 - barrister
 - chiropodist
 - Commissioner of Oaths
 - civil servant (permanent)
 - dentist
 - director, manager or personnel officer of a limited company
 - director or manager of a VAT-registered charity
 - director or manager or personnel officer of a VAT-registered company

Overseas Electors Bill, *continued*

engineer (with professional qualifications)
 financial services intermediary (e.g. a stockbroker or insurance broker)
 fire service official
 funeral director
 insurance agent (full time) of a recognised company
 journalist
 Justice of the Peace
 lecturer
 legal secretary (fellow or associate member of the Institute of Legal Secretaries and PAs)
 licensee of public house
 local government officer
 medical professional
 member, associate or fellow of a professional body
 Merchant Navy officer
 minister of a recognised religion (including Christian Science)
 nurse (Registered General Nurse or Mental Health Nurse)
 officer of the armed services
 optician
 paralegal (certified paralegal, qualified paralegal or associate member of the Institute of Paralegals)
 person with an honour (such as an OBE or MBE)
 pharmacist
 photographer (professional)
 police officer
 Post Office official
 publicly-elected representative (such as MP, Councillor or MEP)
 president or secretary of a recognised organisation
 Salvation Army officer
 social worker
 solicitor
 surveyor
 teacher
 trade union officer
 travel agent (qualified)
 valuer or auctioneer (fellows and associate members of the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers)
 warrant officers and chief petty officers.”

Christian Matheson

Clause 1, page 5, line 5, leave out “12” and insert “18”

Not moved 13

Christian Matheson

Clause 1, page 5, line 5, , leave out “12 months” and insert “4 years”

Not called 14

Overseas Electors Bill, *continued*

- Christian Matheson *Not called* **15**
Clause 1, page 5, line 5, leave out “12 months” and insert “5 years and 1 month”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **16**
Clause 1, page 5, line 18, leave out “12” and insert “18”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **17**
Clause 1, page 5, line 18, leave out “12 months” and insert “4 years”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **18**
Clause 1, page 5, line 18, leave out “12 months” and insert “5 years and 1 month”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **19**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state either the declarant’s National Insurance number or the reason the declarant is unable to provide his or her National Insurance number,”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **20**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state any previous full names held by the declarant in the period since they last made a renewal declaration and the reasons for any changes of name,”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **21**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state the number and date of issue of a British passport held by the declarant or, if the declarant no longer holds a British passport, prescribed information relating to the nationality of the declarant,”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **22**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state a telephone number for the declarant,”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **23**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state an email address for the declarant,”
- Christian Matheson *Not called* **24**
Clause 1, page 6, line 11, at end insert—
“(aa) state the declarant’s preferred means of contact by the registration officer,”

Overseas Electors Bill, *continued*

Christian Matheson

Not called 25

Clause 1, page 6, line 14, leave out “that the declarant is not resident in the United Kingdom” and insert “the country of residence of the declarant, and how long they have lived there,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 26

Clause 1, page 6, line 15, at end insert—
“(da) state that the declarant is aware of the voting offences under sections 60 and 61 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 and associated punishments under sections 168 and 169 of that Act,”

Christian Matheson

Not called 27

Clause 1, page 6, line 15, at end insert—
“(da) state whether the declarant intends to make absent voting arrangements or to vote in person at a polling station,”

Clause agreed to.

Clause 2 agreed to.

Christian Matheson

Withdrawn after debate 28

Clause 3, page 8, line 11, at end insert—
“(2A) No regulations shall be made under subsection (2) until the report under section [Report on awareness of how to participate in elections as an overseas elector] has been laid before Parliament.”

Christian Matheson

Withdrawn after debate 29

Clause 3, page 8, line 11, at end insert—
“(2A) No regulations shall be made under subsection (2) until the report under section [Report on effects of extension of the franchise] has been laid before Parliament.”

[Adjourned until Wednesday 31 October at 2.00 pm]