

# **Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill**

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Cabinet Office, are published separately as Bill 185—EN.

## EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Pat McFadden has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.



# **Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill**

[AS INTRODUCED]

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- 1 Holding of office of Lord High Commissioner by Roman Catholic
- 2 Extent, commencement and short title



[AS INTRODUCED]

A

# B I L L

TO

Make provision for persons of the Roman Catholic faith to be eligible to hold the office of His Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

**B**E IT ENACTED by the King'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:—

## **1 Holding of office of Lord High Commissioner by Roman Catholic**

- (1) A person of the Roman Catholic faith may hold the office of His Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
- (2) In section 12 of the Roman Catholic Relief Act 1829 (offices withheld from Roman Catholics) omit “; or his Majesty's high commissioner to the general assembly of the Church of Scotland”. 5

## **2 Extent, commencement and short title**

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Act 2025. 10

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Make provision for persons of the Roman Catholic faith to be eligible to hold the office of His Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

*Presented by Pat McFadden  
supported by the Prime Minister,  
Secretary Angela Rayner, Secretary Ian Murray,  
Secretary Bridget Phillipson and  
Nick Thomas-Symonds.*

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