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TO

Make provision for the automatic electoral registration of school students who have reached the age of 16; and for connected purposes.

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:—

1 Automatic electoral registration of students aged 16

- (1) The Representation of the People Act 1983 is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 4(1)(d) (entitlement to be registered as parliamentary or local government elector) for “is of voting age” substitute “has reached the age of 16”. 5
- (3) In section 4(3)(d) for “is of voting age” substitute “has reached the age of 16”.
- (4) After section 9A (registration offices: duty to take necessary steps) insert—

“9AA Automatic electoral registration of students aged 16

 - (1) In carrying out the duty under section 9, each registration officer must ensure that all school students who have reached the age of 16 are automatically placed on the electoral register, subject to subsection (2). 10
 - (2) School students may only be automatically placed on the electoral register if their parents have provided the school with consent.
 - (3) The Secretary of State must by regulations impose a duty on schools requiring them to provide specified information to registration officers for the purposes of electoral registration of school students who have reached the age of 16. 15
 - (4) Regulations under subsection (3) must require schools to provide information on whether parental consent has been given in respect of automatically placing a person who falls within subsection (1) on the register. 20
 - (5) This section does not affect the application of section 1 (parliamentary electors) and section 2 (local government electors).”

2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to the whole of the United Kingdom.
- (2) Section 1 comes into force at the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (3) This section comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed. 5
- (4) This Act may be cited as the Automatic Electoral Registration (School Students) Act 2016.

Automatic Electoral Registration (School Students) Bill [HL]

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Lord Roberts of Llandudno

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