

House of Representatives

Supplementary Order Paper

Tuesday, 18 October 2022

Local Government Electoral Legislation Bill

Proposed amendment

Golriz Ghahraman, in Committee, to move the following amendment:

New Part 1A

After *clause 33* (page 14, after line 2), insert:

Part 1A

Amendments to lower voting age for local elections

33A Amendments to Local Electoral Act 2001

- (1) This section amends the Local Electoral Act 2001.
- (2) In section 5(1), insert in its appropriate alphabetical order:

local elector, in relation to a district, means a person aged 16 years or older who has had an application to register as an elector under the Electoral Act 1993 accepted by the Electoral Commission

- (3) In each place that it appears, replace “parliamentary elector” with “local elector”.

33B Amendments to Electoral Act 1993

- (1) This section amends the Electoral Act 1993.
- (2) In each place that it appears, replace “17 years” with “15 years”.

33C Amendments to Local Electoral Regulations 2001

- (1) This section amends the Local Electoral Regulations 2001.
- (2) In each place that it appears, replace “parliamentary elector” with “local elector”.

- (3) In each place that it appears, replace “parliamentary electors” with “local electors”.

Explanatory note

This Supplementary Order Paper amends the Local Government Electoral Legislation Bill to allow people aged 16 and 17 years old to vote, and to stand as candidates, in local body elections.

The roll for a local election is primarily compiled from information supplied to the local electoral officer by the Electoral Commission. To enable the supply of information in respect of people aged 16 or 17 years old to the local electoral officer, this Supplementary Order Paper amends the Bill to include amendments to the Electoral Act 1993. Those amendments would allow people aged 15 or 16 years old to register to vote in general elections (in anticipation of turning 18 years old and being eligible to vote in a general election). People aged 17 years old are already able to register under the Electoral Act 1993 on that provisional basis.