In case of any discrepancies between the original text in Icelandic and the translation, only the original text as published in the Official Gazette of Iceland (Stjórnartíðindi) is authentic. Please note as well that amendments may have been made since the translations were prepared.

GENERAL ELECTIONS ACT

2000 No. 24 (16 May)

Took effect 19 May 2000. Amended by: Act No. 15/2003 (took effect 26 March 2003); Act No. 50/2006 (took effect 1 July 2006); Act No. 162/2006 (took effect 1 Jan. 2007). Act No. 88/2008 (took effect 1 Jan. 2009 except Interim Provision VII, which took effect 21 June 2008); Act No. 7/2009 (took effect 5 Mar. 2009, repealed 1 Dec. 2009); Act No. 16/2009 (took effect 20 Mar. 2009); Act No. 77/2010 (took effect 1 July 2010); Act No. 162/2010 (took effect 1 Jan. 2011); Act No. 126/2011 (took effect 30 Sept. 2011); Act No. 28/2012 (took effect 1 June 2012); Act No. 111/2012 (took effect 18 Oct. 2012); Act No. 117/2012 (took effect 30 Nov. 2012); Act No. 8/2013 (took effect 27 Feb. 2013); Act No. 115/2015 (took effect 16 Dec. 2015); Act No. 91/2016 (took effect 15 Sept. 2016); Act No. 79/2017 (took effect 30 Sept. 2017); Act No. 70/2018 (took effect 1 Sept. 2018); Act No. 141/2018 (took effect 1 Jan. 2019); Act No. 30/2020 (took effect 17 April 2020); Act No. 67/2021 (took effect 26 June 2021); Act No. 109/2021 (took effect 15 July 2021); Act No. 117/2021 (took effect 16 July 2021).

If in this Act 'the minister' or 'the ministry' is mentioned without further definition of, or reference to, the portfolio involved, this is a reference to the Minister of Justice or the Ministry of Justice, as they are responsible for the application of this Act. Information on the responsibilities of the government ministries, as determined by Presidential decrees, can be found here.

Chapter I. Right to vote and qualifications to stand for election

Art. 1 All Icelandic citizens who have reached the age of 18

at the time of a general election and who are domiciled in Iceland have the right to vote.

Icelandic citizens who have reached the age of 18 and who have been domiciled in Iceland, have the right to vote:

a. For eight years after transferring their domicile from Iceland, counting from 1 December prior to the date of the election.

b. After the time referred to in indent a, providing they have applied for it in accordance with the further rules stated in Article 2.

Art. 2 Applications for the right to vote under indent b of the second paragraph of Article 1 shall be sent to [the National Registry] 1) on a form designed for this purpose stating the applicant' s name, ID number, date of moving from Iceland, last domicile in Iceland and address abroad. Applications shall also include a declaration by the applicant to the effect that he or she is still an Icelandic citizen. [The National Registry] 1) shall provide these application forms, which shall be available there and also in offices of Icelandic embassies and permanent missions, Icelandic consulates and in the offices of Icelandic honorary consuls. Applications received by [the National Registry] 1) more than one year prior to the expiry of the right according to indent a of the second paragraph of Article 1 shall not be granted. Where an application is satisfactory, [the National Registry] 1) shall inform the applicant and the relevant local authority of this. The decision to add an individual' s name to the electoral register in this manner shall be valid as from 1 December following submission of the application.

These provisions shall apply in the same way regarding the renewal of the right to vote.

1)Act No. 77/2010, Art. 5.

Art. 3 No person may exercise the right to vote unless his or her name is on the voters' roll at the time of the election.

Art. 4 Any person who has the right to vote under Article and who is in possession of full civil rights may stand for election to the Althingi. Supreme Court Justices ... 1) may not, however, stand for election. 1)Act No. 16/2009, Art. 1.

Art. 5 [No one is considered to be in possession of full civil rights who has been sentenced for a criminal offence, if the punishment is a non-conditional term of imprisonment, from the date of pronouncement of sentence until the sentence has been served in full.] 1)

1)Act No. 141/2018, Art. 2.

Chapter II. Constituencies

Art. 6 Voters shall exercise their voting rights in their constituencies according to the rules and conditions laid down in this Act. Iceland is divided into the following constituencies:

[1. The North-Western Constituency.

This comprises the following local government areas: Akraneskaupstaður, [Hvalfjarðarsveit], 1) Skorradalshreppur, [Borgarbyggð], 1) Eyja- og Miklaholtshreppur, Snæfellsbær, Grundarfjarðarbær, Helgafellssveit, Stykkishólmsbær, Dalabyggð, ... 1) Reykhólahreppur, Vesturbyggð, Tálknafjarðarhreppur, Bolungarvíkurkaupstaður, Ísafjarðarbær, Súðavíkurhreppur, Árneshreppur,