Draft Regulations laid before Parliament under section 201(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, section 105(6) of the Local Government Act 2000 and section 42(10) of the Electoral Administration Act 2006, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2007 No. 0000

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE

The Representation of the People (England and Wales) and the Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007

Made - - - - Date

Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1

These Regulations are made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 36(3C) of, and rule 57 in Schedule 1 to, the Representation of the People Act 1983(**1**); having regard to the definition of "prescribed" in section 202(1) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, rules 19A and 28 in Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983(**2**); section 15(5) of the Representation of the People Act 1985(**3**); sections 44 and 45(6) of the Local Government Act 2000(**4**); and section 42 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006(**5**).

The Secretary of State has consulted the Electoral Commission about these Regulations in accordance with sections 44(3A) and 45(8A) of the Local Government Act 2000, section 7(1) and (2)(e) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000(**6**) and section 42(9) of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

In accordance with section 201(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983, section 105(6) of the Local Government Act 2000 and section 42(10) of the Electoral Administration Act 2006, a draft of this instrument has been laid before and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.

Accordingly, the Secretary of State makes the following Regulations:

(**1**) 1983 c. 2; subsection (3C) of section 36 was inserted by section 17 of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50) and paragraphs (3) to (9) of rule 57 were inserted by section 41 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (c.22).
(**2**) Rule 19A was inserted by section 31(2) of the Electoral Administration Act 2006 (c. 22) and rule 28 was amended by paragraph 70 of Schedule 1 to the Electoral Administration Act 2006.
(**3**) 1985 c. 50; section 15 was amended by section 3 of the European Communities (Amendment) Act 1986 (c. 55) and by Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2003 (c. 26).
(**4**) 2000 c. 22; sections 44 and 45 were amended by paragraph 18 of Schedule 21 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41).
(**5**) 2006 c. 22.
(**6**) 2000 c. 41.

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Representation of the People (England and Wales) and the Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), these Regulations shall come into force on the fourteenth day after the day on which they are made.

(3) These Regulations shall not have effect in relation to any election for which the date of poll specified in the notice of election issued in relation to that election is on or before 2 May 2007.

(4) These Regulations do not extend to Scotland or Northern Ireland.

Amendment to the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001

2.—(1) In this regulation, any reference to a numbered regulation or Schedule is a reference to the regulation or Schedule bearing that number in the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001(**7**).

Corresponding Number Lists

(2) In regulation 63A(2) and (4)(**8**) for "rules 29(3)(e), 37(1)(b) and 37(1)(d)" substitute "rules 29(3)(e) and 37(1)(b)".

(3) In regulation 63A(3) and (4) for "sections 44(2) or 44(6)" substitute "section 44 or 45".

Forms

(4) In Schedule 3—

(a) for Forms A, B, L2 and M2, substitute Forms A, B, L2 and M2 as set out in the Schedule to these Regulations; and

(b) in the heading to Form B1 for "From B1" substitute "Form B1".

Interpretation of Part 7

(5) In regulation 116(1) for "rule 55(1)(b) and (c)" substitute "rule 55(1)(e)".

Supply of marked registers and lists after an election

(6) In regulation 117(7)(**9**) for "referred to in paragraph (6)" substitute "in regulations 100(3), 103(3), 105(4), 106(3), 108(5) and 109(3) shall", and for "the marked register or lists" substitute "a marked register or list".

Fees relating to the supply of marked registers and lists

(7) In regulation 120(**10**) for "paragraph (3)" substitute "paragraph (4)".

Amendment to the Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) (England and Wales) Regulations 2004

3. In paragraph 28 of Schedule 2 to the Representation of the People (Combination of Polls) Regulations 2004(**11**), in the text to be substituted, delete paragraph 1 of the Guidance for Voters at Combined Polls and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly.

(**7**) S.I. 2001/341, amended by S.I. 2001/1700, 2003/1871, 2004/226, 2006/752 and 2006/2910.
(**8**) Regulation 63A was inserted by S.I. 2006/2910.
(**9**) Regulation 117 was inserted by S.I. 2006/2910.
(**10**) Regulation 120 was inserted by S.I. 2006/2910.
(**11**) S.I. 2004/294, amended by S.I. 2006/3278.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

Name
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Department for Constitutional Affairs

Date

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

Forms

Form A: OFFICIAL POLL CARD
(to be sent to an elector voting in person)
Front of card

OFFICIAL POLL CARD

Constituency:	Number on register:
Polling Day:	*Name
Polling hours: **7 a.m. to 10 p.m.**	.....
	*Address
Your polling station will be:	.....
	** (Returning officer to omit where poll card sent to an anonymous elector. Poll card to anonymous elector must be delivered in a sealed envelope.)*

***This card is for information only. You can vote without it, but it will save you time if you take it to the polling station and show it to the clerk there.**

SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD

Back of card

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

*When you go to the polling station, tell the clerk your name and address, as shown on the front of the card.

*The clerk will confirm your details on the register.

When you are given your ballot paper, go to one of the polling booths. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the name of the candidate you are voting for.

Vote for ONE candidate only. Do not put any other mark on the ballot paper, or your vote may not be counted.

If you spoil your ballot paper by mistake, show it to the presiding officer and ask for a replacement.

Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the presiding officer the number and other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper, but do not let anyone see your vote. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station.

If you will be away on the date of the poll –

- You can apply to vote by post. Your application must be received by the Returning Officer before 5 p.m. on [*-11 day/date deadline*]. If you are given a postal vote, you will not be entitled to vote in person at this election.
- You can apply to vote by proxy (this means someone else can vote on your behalf). Your application must be received before 5 p.m. on [*-6 day/date deadline*]. If you appoint a proxy, you can still vote in this election yourself if you do so before your proxy has voted for you.

In certain circumstances it may be possible to apply to vote by proxy after [*-6 day/date deadline*].

To change any of your voting arrangements please contact [*helpline number*] as soon as possible.

Issued by the Returning Officer

Form B: OFFICIAL PROXY POLL CARD
(to be sent to an appointed proxy voting in person)
Front of card

OFFICIAL PROXY POLL CARD

Constituency: Polling Day: Polling hours: **7 a.m. to 10 p.m.** Elector's polling station will be:	*This poll card is to tell you that for this election, the elector named on the back of this card has appointed you as their proxy. *Proxy's name …… *Proxy's address …… **(Returning officer to omit where poll card sent to the proxy of an anonymous elector. Poll card to proxy of anonymous elector must be delivered in a sealed envelope.)*

***This card is for information only. You can vote without it, but it will save time if you take it to the polling station and show it to the clerk there.**

SEE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BACK OF THIS CARD

Back of card

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

*This poll card is to tell you that for this election you are appointed as proxy for:

……
*(Elector's name)

……
*(Elector's address)

……
*(Elector's number on register)

*When you go to the polling station, tell the clerk that you wish to vote as proxy on behalf of the voter shown above.

The clerk will confirm your details on the register.

When you are given the ballot paper, go to one of the polling booths. Mark a cross (X) in the box on the right hand side of the ballot paper opposite the name of the candidate the elector is voting for.

Vote for ONE candidate only. Do not put any other mark on the ballot paper, or the vote may not be counted.

If you spoil the ballot paper by mistake, show it to the presiding officer and ask for a replacement.

Fold the ballot paper in two. Show the presiding officer the number and other unique identifying mark on the back of the ballot paper, but do not let anyone see the vote. Put the ballot paper in the ballot box and leave the polling station.

If you will be away on the date of the poll, you can apply to vote by post before 5 p.m. on [*-11 day/date deadline*]. If you are given a postal vote, you or the elector will *not* be entitled to vote in