Draft Order laid before Parliament under section 96(2) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament.

DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2002 No.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) (Amendment) Order 2002

Made - - - -

Coming into force - - 1st December 2002

Whereas the Secretary of State has consulted the Electoral Commission in accordance with section 7(1) and (2)(h) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000(**1**) about this Order.

And whereas a draft of this Order has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 34(4) of the Northern Ireland Act 1998(**2**) hereby makes the following Order:

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) (Amendment) Order 2002.

(2) In this Order the "2001 Order" means the Northern Ireland Assembly (Elections) Order 2001(**3**).

(3) This Order shall come into force on 1st December 2002, except for the purposes of an election where the last day for the publication of the notice of election is before that date.

(4) This Order extends to Northern Ireland only.

2.—(1) Schedule 1 to the 2001 Order (application with modifications of statutory provisions relating to elections) is amended as follows.

(2) In the right-hand column of that Schedule, in rule 44B (preliminary proceedings) of the rules in Schedule 1 to the Representation of the People Act 1983(**4**) (as modified)—

(a) in paragraph (3), the words from "it is returned" to the end are to be sub-paragraph (a) of that paragraph, and after "authenticated" there is inserted—

(**1**) 2000 c. 41.
(**2**) 1998 c. 47; the powers in section 34(4) are extended by section 34(5) and (6).
(**3**) S.I.2001/2599.
(**4**) 1983 c. 2.