Parliamentary Bureau – Approval of Scottish Statutory Instruments

Affirmative Instruments

Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

1. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

2. To make changes to the Scottish Parliament (Elections etc.) Order 2015, the Representation of the People Act 1983 and the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It increases the age that looked after or formerly looked after people can register to vote using a declaration of local connection from 15 years old and under to those aged under 21 years old. It clarifies the scope of Electoral Commission oversight of candidates for Scottish Parliament elections. It updates the definitions of notional expenditure and the offence of undue influence at Scottish Parliament elections. It reduces the dissolution period of the Scottish Parliament before a general election from 28 days to 20 days and makes consequential amendments to provisions linked to the dissolution date. It amends the limits on election expenses which apply where the date of the poll is changed. It updates the requirement for Returning Officers to provide equipment to assist electors to cast their votes. It also updates rules relating to proxy voting relating to some prisoners, those accompanying persons having medical treatment, and replacement of proxies where a nominated proxy is unable to vote. The changes will apply to all Scottish Parliament elections which take place on or after 7 May 2026.

Consideration by committee

 At its meeting on 18 September the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee agreed to recommend that the above Instrument be approved. The <u>Committee's report was published on 6 October 2025</u>.

Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Commons)
Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

4. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Commons) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

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Purpose

5. To modify the Scotland Act 1998 such that an individual is disqualified from being an MSP if they also hold a role as a Member of the House of Commons (an "MP"). This is subject to time-limited exceptions provided in the instrument. The instrument also provides for the limitation of the salary of an MSP during the exception period in which they are also an MP.

Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Lords) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

6. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Members of the House of Lords) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

7. To modify the Scotland Act 1998 such that an individual is disqualified from being an MSP if they are also a Member of the House of Lords. This is subject to time limited exceptions provided in the instrument.

<u>Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Councillors) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)</u>

8. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Parliament (Disqualification of Councillors) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

9. To modify the Scotland Act 1998 such that an individual is disqualified from being an MSP if they also hold a role as a Councillor. This is subject to time-limited exceptions provided in the instrument. The instrument also provides for the limitation of the salary of an MSP during the exception period in which they are also a Councillor.

Consideration by committee

10. At its <u>meeting on 2 October</u> the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee agreed to recommend that the above Instruments be approved. The Committee's report will be published by 27 October 2025 and available on the Parliament's Website here.

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<u>Free-Range Poultrymeat Marketing Standards (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations</u> 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

11. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Free-Range Poultrymeat Marketing Standards (Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

12. To amend assimilated EU law marketing standards regulations for poultrymeat to remove a 12-week derogation period for marketing of poultrymeat. The proposed changes would allow poultry producers to continue to market their meat as free-range throughout the period in which a housing order has been imposed to protect against avian flu.

Consideration by committee

13. At its meeting on 24 September 2025 the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee agreed to recommend that the above Instrument be approved. The Committee's report was published on 7 October 2025.

Scottish Aggregates Tax (Administration) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

14. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Scottish Aggregates Tax (Administration) Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

15. To make provision for the administration and assurance of the Scottish Aggregates Tax.

Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Postponement of Tax Pending a Review or Appeal) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

16. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Postponement of Tax Pending a Review or Appeal) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

17. To provide that, where a review or appeal is in progress, a taxpayer may make an application to Revenue Scotland to postpone payment of tax, penalties or

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interest in relation to a liability for Scottish Aggregates Tax or a liability for Scottish Landfill Tax.

The Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Record Keeping) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft)

18. Under Rule 10.6.5, the Bureau is required to lodge the following motion—

Graeme Dey on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau: That the Parliament agrees that the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Act (Record Keeping) Amendment Regulations 2025 (SSI 2025/Draft) be approved.

Purpose

19. To make provision for the records that must be preserved by registrable persons, and certain parties made exempt from registration, under the Aggregates Act.

Consideration by committee

At its meeting on 7 October 2025 the Finance and Public Administration Committee agreed to recommend that the above Instruments be approved. The <u>Committee's report was published on 23 October 2025</u>.

Decision

- 20. Business Managers are invited to note that the above motions will be lodged.
- 21. Business Managers should reserve their position if their party intends to speak against or oppose the motions.

Parliamentary Business Team October 2025