

Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Explanatory notes to the Bill, prepared by the Cabinet Office, are published separately as HL Bill 79—EN.

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Baroness Smith of Basildon has made the following statement under section 19(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act 1998:

In my view the provisions of the Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill are compatible with the Convention rights.

Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Bill

[AS BROUGHT FROM THE COMMONS]

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[AS BROUGHT FROM THE COMMONS]

A

B I L L

TO

Make provision for persons of the Roman Catholic faith to be eligible to hold the office of His Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

BE IT ENACTED by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Holding of office of Lord High Commissioner by Roman Catholic

- (1) A person of the Roman Catholic faith may hold the office of His Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.
- (2) In section 12 of the Roman Catholic Relief Act 1829 (offices withheld from Roman Catholics) omit “; or his Majesty's high commissioner to the general assembly of the Church of Scotland”. 5

2 Extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Church of Scotland (Lord High Commissioner) Act 2025. 10

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Brought from the Commons on 5th March 2025

Ordered to be Printed, 5th March 2025.

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