

Model Parliament Unit

**Sample Bill – *Youth Electors Act*
(Entry-Level Version)**

____ Session, ____ Parliament

Elizabeth II, 200_

The House of Commons of Canada

BILL C-0_

This is an Act that changes the way MPs are elected to the House of Commons

The Queen, through the Senate and the House of Commons of Canada, makes the following Act:

SHORT TITLE

This Act may be known as the *Youth Electors Act*.

INTERPRETATION

1. These definitions apply to this Act.

"educational institution" means a primary or secondary (high) school

"election" means an election of an MP to serve in the House of Commons.

"elector" means a person who is qualified as an elector under section 3

"list of electors" means the list showing the family name, given names and address of every elector

"MP" means a Member of the House of Commons

"polling day" means the date of voting in an election

"polling station" means the place where electors cast their votes



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ELIGIBILITY

2. The Chief Electoral Officer requires certain types of identification to prove that a person is who they say they are, and that they are allowed to vote at a certain polling station. Anybody with this type of identification has given proof.

If a school takes an elector to a polling station, somebody from the school may prove that an elector is who they say they are.

ELECTORAL RIGHTS

3. Every person who is a Canadian citizen and is 14 years of age or older on polling day is allowed to vote.

Everybody who qualifies as an elector is entitled to have their name included in the list of electors where they live, and to vote at a polling station there.

The following persons are not entitled to vote at an election:

- (a) anybody young enough to have to be in school who is not attending school; and
- (b) anybody in prison and serving a sentence of two years or more.

PROHIBITION

4. No person may:

- (a) vote or attempt to vote at an election if they know that they are not qualified;
- (b) try to make another person vote at an election if they know that the other person is not qualified as an elector or not entitled to vote; or
- (c) talk to people waiting to vote and try to get them to change their vote.

Once an elector has voted at an election, he or she may not ask for another ballot at that election.



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RESIDENCE

5. The place of ordinary residence of a person is the place that has always been his or her dwelling place, or the place where the person has chosen to live; that is, the place the person thinks of as "home" when away from it.

If a person usually sleeps in one place but eats or spends most of their waking time somewhere else, their place of ordinary residence is where they sleep.

Temporary residential quarters are considered to be a person's place of ordinary residence only if the person has no other place that they consider to be their residence.

Some people without a dwelling place may go to a shelter, hostel or similar institution for food, lodging or other social services. That place is considered that person's place of ordinary residence.

POLLING STATIONS

6. Polling stations are to be open on Election Day for at least twelve (12) hours, beginning no later than 9:00 a.m. local time, and ending no earlier than 7:00 p.m. local time.

On Election Day, workplaces and schools must close two hours earlier than usual so that employees and students will have enough time to vote.

On days when polling stations must open before sunrise and close after sunset, some schools may take students to vote. If they do, they are not required to close early.

IN FORCE

7. This Act shall come into force three months after it receives Royal Assent.

