

L A W

AMENDING THE LAW ON LOCAL ELECTIONS

Article 1

In the Law on Local Elections (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, Nos. 14/22 and 35/24), Article 15 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Only a person who has the electoral right and a permanent residence in the territory of a local self-government unit, and who is neither a councillor nor a candidate for councillor, may be appointed as Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, member or substitute member of a local electoral management body.

Only a person who holds a valid certificate of successfully completed training for work in an electoral management body may be appointed as Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, member or substitute member of a local electoral management body.

Training for work in electoral commissions and polling boards shall be organised and carried out by the Republic Electoral Commission in accordance with the law governing the election of MPs to the National Assembly.”.

Article 2

In Article 22, after paragraph 3, a new paragraph 4 shall be added, worded as follows:

“Only a person who holds a valid certificate of completed training for work in electoral commissions may be appointed as Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the electoral commission.”.

Former paragraph 4 shall become paragraph 5.

Article 3

In Article 25, paragraph 1, after item 20), an item 20a) shall be added, worded as follows:

“20a) cooperate with the Republic Electoral Commission in organising and carrying out training for work in polling boards;”.

Article 4

In Article 28, paragraph 3 shall be deleted.

Article 5

In Article 30, paragraph 3 shall be deleted.

Article 6

In Article 33, after paragraph 3, a paragraph 4 shall be added, worded as follows:

“For the purpose of replacing the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, member or substitute member of a polling board, the authorised nominator shall nominate a person who holds a valid certificate of completed training for work in polling boards.”.

Article 7

In Article 43, paragraph 2 shall be amended to read as follows:

“A voter may, by his or her signature, support more than one electoral list.”.

Paragraph 3 shall be amended to read as follows:

“If there are reasonable grounds to suspect the misuse of voters’ personal data in the process of collecting voter signatures, the Republic Electoral Commission shall file a criminal complaint with the competent public prosecution office.”.

Paragraph 4 shall be deleted.

Article 8

In Article 75, paragraph 4 shall be amended to read as follows:

“The nominator of a national minority electoral list may be: a political party registered in the Register of Political Parties as a national minority political party; a coalition composed exclusively of political parties registered in the Register of Political Parties as national minority political parties; as well as a group of citizens.”.

After paragraph 5, paragraphs 6-8 shall be added, worded as follows:

“An electoral list may be granted the status of a national minority electoral list only if the name of the electoral list contains the full and/or abbreviated name under which the national minority political party nominating the electoral list is registered in the Register of Political Parties, or the name of the national minority whose interests are represented by the political party nominating the electoral list.

If an electoral list, which is proposed to obtain the status of a national minority electoral list, is nominated by a coalition, the name of the electoral list must contain the full and/or abbreviated names of all the political parties that formed the coalition, or the names of all the national minorities represented by the political parties that formed the coalition.

If an electoral list, which is proposed to obtain the status of a national minority electoral list, is nominated by a group of citizens, the agreement on the formation of that group of citizens must contain a statement that the group of citizens is formed for the purpose of representing the interests of a particular national minority, and the name of the electoral list must contain the name of the national minority whose interests are represented by that group of citizens.”.

Article 9

Article 76 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Article 76

The electoral commission shall adopt a decision rejecting a proposal to grant an electoral list the status of a national minority electoral list if it does not meet the conditions prescribed by this Law, as well as if the list leader or a candidate for a councillor on that electoral list is a person who is publicly recognisable as an active member of a political party that is not a national minority political party.”.

Article 10

(1) Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons, Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries of electoral commissions appointed prior to the entry into force of this Law shall complete the training provided by the Republic Electoral Commission for work in local electoral commissions within six months from the entry into force of this Law.

(2) Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons, Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries of electoral commissions appointed after the entry into force of this Law, but no later than 31 December 2026, shall complete the training provided by the Republic Electoral Commission for work in local electoral commissions within three months of their appointment to the local electoral commission.

Article 11

This Law shall enter into force on the eighth day following the date of its publication in the “Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, except for Article 1, paragraph 2, insofar as it concerns the Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of electoral commissions, and Article 2, which shall apply from 1 January 2027, and Article 1, paragraph 2, insofar as it concerns members and substitute members of electoral commissions and the Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons, members and substitute members of polling boards, and Articles 4, 5 and 6, which shall apply from 1 January 2028.