THE ROAD TRAFFIC (NHS CHARGES) ACT 1999

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Section 1: Payment for hospital treatment of traffic casualties

Section 1 sets out the circumstances in which NHS charges are due. These are largely as found in the Road Traffic Act 1988 although costs will, for the first time, be recovered through the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB). At present MIB provides compensation in those cases where the driver is uninsured or untraceable but it is not liable for NHS charges. The Act will bring MIB into the scheme although it is intended that regulations will provide that MIB is not liable to pay NHS charges in relation to accidents occurring before the scheme comes into force.