

*These notes refer to the Legal Services Act 2007 (c.29)  
which received Royal Assent on 30th October 2007*

# LEGAL SERVICES ACT 2007

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 8: Miscellaneous and General Provisions about Lawyers**

##### ***Section 194: Payments in respect of pro bono representation***

471. This section enables a court to make an order in civil cases requiring a person to make a payment where a party to the proceedings was represented by a legal representative whose services were provided *pro bono* (i.e. free of charge). Under the previous costs law, an unsuccessful party would not have been required to pay any amount in respect of that representation because the services were provided free of charge and so there were no costs. Under this section, awards will be at the discretion of the court and will be paid directly to a designated charitable body, established to administer and distribute the monies to organisations who conduct *pro bono* work.