

*These notes refer to the Scotland Act 1998 (c.46)  
which received Royal Assent on 19th November 1998*

# SCOTLAND ACT 1998

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### SCHEDULES

[Schedule 5](#)

### Part II: Preliminary paragraphs

### SECTIONS

#### *Section L3: Control of Weapons*

#### **Purpose and Effect**

This Section reserves the control of weapons of mass destruction.

#### **General**

There are three existing enactments dealing with matters covered by this reservation: the Biological Weapons Act 1974, which prohibits the development, production, acquisition and possession of certain biological agents and toxins and of biological weapons; the Chemical Weapons Act 1996, which is concerned with the control of chemical weapons and certain toxic chemicals; and the Nuclear Explosions (Prohibition and Inspections) Act 1998. Certain matters relating to firearms are also reserved.

#### **Details of Provisions**

This reserves the control of nuclear, biological, chemical and any other weapon of mass destruction, as distinct from other weapons, such as firearms.