

*These notes refer to the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 (c.43) which received Royal Assent on 30 November 2000*

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND COURT SERVICES ACT 2000

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### Part II: Protection of Children

##### *Sections 26 and 27: Meaning of “offence against a child”*

79. *Section 26* establishes the circumstances under which an individual will be deemed to have committed an offence against a child. *Subsection (1)* sets out those circumstances, according to the list of offences and circumstances in *Schedule 4*. *Subsection (2)* allows the Secretary of State to alter Schedule 4, subject to the agreement of Parliament by *affirmative resolution order*. The Secretary of State can thereby ensure that the legislation remains comprehensive in scope, covering all (and potentially new) circumstances in which an individual commits a serious offence against a child.
80. *Section 27* ensures that an individual charged with or convicted of an armed forces offence equivalent to an offence against a child is treated as an individual under Section 26, and that members of the armed forces serving overseas are also caught by the legislation.