

*These notes refer to the Health Act 2006 (c.28) which received Royal Assent on 19 July 2006*

# **HEALTH ACT 2006**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND**

4. The Act makes a number of changes intended to protect the health of the public and to improve the running of the NHS. The Act covers smoke-free public places and workplaces; power to amend the minimum age of sale of tobacco; prevention and control of health care associated infections; management of controlled drugs in the NHS; provision of pharmacy and ophthalmic services; countering NHS fraud; and replacing the NHS Appointments Commission with a new body with a wider role. In addition the Act contains changes relating to administration of the Social Care Bursary scheme; the audit of special health authorities; injury cost recovery in the NHS; the transfer of the criminal liabilities of NHS bodies; and provisions to remove out-of-date references to Welsh health authorities.