

# EQUALITY ACT 2010

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 12: Disabled Persons: Transport**

##### *Chapter 1: Taxis, etc.*

##### *Section 160: Taxi accessibility regulations*

#### **Effect**

522. This section contains a power for the Secretary of State to make regulations (in relation to England and Wales) specifying the technical standards applying to licensed taxis and imposing requirements on taxi drivers, to enable disabled people to access taxis safely, even when seated in a wheelchair, and to be carried in safety and reasonable comfort. It makes it an offence, punishable by a fine of (currently) up to £1,000, for a driver of a regulated taxi to fail to comply with the requirements of the regulations.

#### **Background**

523. This section replicates provisions the effect of conditions in section 32 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.
524. These conditions do not apply to taxis which are drawn by horses or other animals.

#### **Examples**

- It is an offence for a taxi driver not to comply with a requirement to have a ramp or other device to enable a disabled person in a wheelchair to access the taxi in safety.
- It is an offence for a taxi driver not to comply with a requirement to ensure the correct position of a wheelchair in the taxi so as to ensure the disabled person can travel in safety.