

*These notes refer to the Mental Capacity Act (Northern Ireland)  
2016 (c.18) which received Royal Assent on 9 May 2016*

# Mental Capacity Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 14 – Miscellaneous**

##### ***Section 280 – Appointment of approved social workers***

Section 280 requires each HSC trust to ensure that it appoints a sufficient number of approved social workers to carry out the functions assigned to them under the Act. The section also provides that no one can be appointed an approved social worker unless the HSC trust has approved him or her as having appropriate competence in dealing with people who lack capacity. In appointing approved social workers the HSC trust must also have regard to directions issued by the Department.