

*These notes refer to the European Parliament (Representation)  
Act 2003 (c.7) which received Royal Assent on 8 May 2003*

# **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (REPRESENTATION) ACT 2003**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS**

#### **Part 1: Changes in total number of United Kingdom MEPs**

##### ***Section 5: Orders implementing changes in the number of United Kingdom MEPs***

19. **Section 5** gives the Lord Chancellor the power to make an order giving effect to a change in Community law in the number of MEPs to be elected for the United Kingdom and a recommendation made by the Electoral Commission as to their distribution in the regions by altering the total number and distribution of UK MEPs. The order must be made within twelve months of the Electoral Commission's recommendation. It can be made before the Treaty provision or other instrument making the change comes into force and before the Treaty has been specified in section 1(2) of the European Communities Act 1972, but it cannot come into force until those measures have come into force.