EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order brings into force on 6th April 2010 the remaining provisions of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") so far as they are not already in force by virtue of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 (Commencement No.1 and Transitional Provisions) Order 2009(1) and the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 (Commencement No.2 and Transitional Provision) and (Commencement No.1 Amendment) Order 2009(2).

This Order brings into force section 54 of the 2008 Act, which makes new provision to enable parental orders to be granted not only to married couples but also to civil partners and two persons living as partners in an enduring family relationship, provided certain conditions are met. The current provision for parental orders in section 30 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 ("the 1990 Act") is repealed by this Order, although Orders made before 6th April 2010 under section 30 will remain valid. This Order also brings into force provisions which update the information provisions and powers relating to mitochondrial donation in the 1990 Act to reflect the new forms of parental orders.

Provision is also made to commence the remaining consequential amendments in Schedule 6 to amend other legislation affected by the new parental orders including, for example, legislation relating to child maintenance.

There are no other provisions under the 2008 Act to bring into force.

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⁽¹⁾ S.I. 2009/479, amended by S.I. 2009/2232.

⁽²⁾ S.I. 2009/2232.