

*These notes refer to the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c.33)
which received Royal Assent on 18th November 2004*

CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 2 – Civil Partnership: England and Wales

Introduction

Chapter 1 – Registration

Section 21: Notice of proposed civil partnership

47. **Sections 21 to 27** deal with "the special procedure". This enables a civil partnership registration to take place very quickly, under a Registrar General's licence, where one of the proposed civil partners is seriously ill and not expected to recover. The licence is the equivalent of a civil partnership schedule but can be issued by a registration authority only on the authority of the Registrar General. It is the document that is signed by the couple to form the civil partnership.
48. **Section 21** relaxes the normal requirement that both proposed civil partners must give notice and allows one of the proposed civil partners to give a notice of proposed civil partnership under the special procedure, as long as that person complies with any requirement made under section 22. *Subsection (3)* applies most of the requirements of subsections (3) to (6) of section 8 relating to the declaration to be made when giving notice. The requirement as to residence (in section 8(4)(b)) is not applied.