EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

The Order, which comes into force on 16th August 2001, applies to elections to the National Assembly for Wales.

Section 22 of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (c. 41) makes provision for parties to be registered in order to field candidates at "relevant elections" (which by virtue of section 22(5)(d) includes elections to the National Assembly). It does so by providing that a person may only stand as a candidate at such an election if that candidate's nomination paper is accompanied by a certificate authorising his candidature issued by, or on behalf of, the nominating officer of a qualifying registered party or if his nomination paper either gives the description "Independent" or gives no description whatsoever.

This Order provides that, in relation to an election to the National Assembly for Wales, "Annibynnol" is prescribed as the form of words in Welsh for the word "Independent" for use as the description of the candidate in the nomination paper.