

# EQUALITY ACT 2010

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 5: Work**

#### *Chapter 1: Employment, etc.*

#### *Section 54: Interpretation*

#### **Effect**

185. This section explains the meaning of various terms used in section 53. In particular, it defines a qualifications body as a body which can confer any academic, medical, technical or other standard which is required to carry out a particular trade or profession, or which better enables a person to do so by, for example, determining whether the person has a particular level of competence or ability.
186. It also makes clear that bodies such as schools, institutions of further and higher education and education authorities which confer qualifications such as A Levels and GCSEs are not qualifications bodies for the purposes of section 53.

#### **Background**

187. This section is designed to replicate the effect of similar provisions in previous legislation.

#### **Example**

- Examples of qualifications bodies are the Public Carriage Office (which licenses cab drivers in London), the British Horseracing Authority and the General Medical Council. Also included is any body which confers a diploma on people pursuing a particular trade (for example, plumbers), even if the diploma is not strictly necessary to pursue a career in that trade but shows that the person has reached a certain standard.