1976 No. 317

PATIENTS' AFFAIRS (AMENDMENT) ORDER No. 2 (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1976

Made . . . . . *27th October* 1976

Coming into operation . . . . *20th December* 1976

To be laid before Parliament.

I, the Right Honourable Sir Robert Lynd Erskine Lowry, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, intrusted by virtue of Her Majesty The Queen's Sign Manual with the care and commitment of the custody of the persons and estates of persons found idiot or of unsound mind, in exercise of the powers conferred upon me by the Lunacy Regulation (Ireland) Act 1871(**a**) as this enactment has effect in Northern Ireland(**b**), and section 8 of the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1945(**c**), and of all other powers enabling me in this behalf, do hereby order as follows:

1. This Order may be cited as the Patients' Affairs (Amendment) Order No. 2 (Northern Ireland) 1976, and shall be construed as one with the Mental Patients' Affairs Order (Northern Ireland) 1949 (in this Order referred to as "the Principal Order").

2. This Order shall come into operation on 20th December 1976.

3.—(1) In Article 55 of the Principal Order, as substituted by Rule 8 of the Mental Patients' Affairs (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1963(**d**), for the figures "£500" there shall be substituted the figures "£1,500".

(2) In the proviso to Article 66 of the Principal Order, as amended by Rule 14 of the Mental Patients' Affairs (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1963, for the figures "£500" there shall be substituted the figures "£1,500".

Dated this 27th day of October 1976.

(Signed) *Robert Lowry*

Lord Chief Justice

(**a**) 1871 c. 22
(**b**) S.R. & O. 1921 No. 1802 (p. 1332)
(**c**) 1945 c. 12 (8 & 9 Geo. 6)
(**d**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 173 (p. 604)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order increases from £500 to £1,500 the maximum amount of a deceased patient's net assets which may be dealt with the Department for the Affairs of Patients without issue or production of a grant of representation. It likewise increases the maximum amount in respect of which the Judge in Lunacy may make an order without a formal application.