

1995 No. 13

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Widow's Benefit and Retirement Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995

Made 16th January 1995

Coming into operation 10th February 1995

The Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 120(1)(a) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Widow's Benefit and Retirement Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and shall come into operation on 10th February 1995.

Amendment of regulation 1 of the Social Security (Widow's Benefit and Retirement Pensions) Regulations

2. In regulation 1 of the Social Security (Widow's Benefit and Retirement Pensions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(b) after paragraph (3) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“(3A) For the purposes of regulation 8(c) of these regulations, where, before the coming into operation of Article 18 of the Matrimonial Causes (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(d) (effect of decree of nullity in case of voidable marriage) a decree of nullity was granted in relation to a person on the ground that the marriage was voidable, that person shall be treated as a person whose marriage has been terminated by divorce from the date on which that decree was made absolute.”.

(a) 1992 c. 7

(b) S.R. 1979 No. 243, to which there are amendments not relevant to these regulations

(c) Regulation 8(5) was amended by Article 19(1) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 (S.I. 1986/1888 (N.I. 18)); Article 19 was repealed by Schedule 1 to the Social Security (Consequential Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 9) but the effect of Article 19(1) was saved by paragraph 11 of Schedule 3 to that Act

(d) S.I. 1978/1045 (N.I. 15); Article 18 came into operation on 18th April 1979 by virtue of Article 2 of S.R. 1979 No. 99 (C. 4)

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 16th January 1995.

(L.S.)

W. G. Purdy

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations further amend regulation 1 of the Social Security (Widow's Benefit and Retirement Pensions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979. Regulation 2 inserts a new paragraph (3A) which provides for a voidable marriage in respect of which a decree absolute of nullity of marriage has been granted before 18th April 1979 to be treated as if it had been a valid marriage terminated by divorce at the date of annulment.

These regulations correspond to provision contained in regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Security in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.