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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Social Security (Invalid Care Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976, the Social Security (Severe Disablement Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984, the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987, the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987, the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987, the Social Security (Attendance Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992, the Social Security (Disability Living Allowance) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996.

Regulation 1 makes provision relating to citation, commencement and interpretation.

Regulation 2 and the Schedule make provision for certain people not to be excluded from entitlement to benefits under section 115 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 who would otherwise be excluded under that section.

Regulations 3 to 10 make consequential amendments to the Regulations referred to above.

Regulation 11 makes provision for transitional arrangements and savings.

Regulation 12 makes provision for revocations.

These Regulations are made by virtue of, or consequential upon, provisions in the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 (c. 33) which includes provision for new arrangements for the support of asylum seekers. The Regulations are made before the end of the period of six months beginning with the coming into force of the relevant provisions of that Act and are, accordingly exempt, by virtue of section 150(5)(b) of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), from reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.