

**2002 No. 332**

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**The Income Support (General) and Jobseeker's Allowance  
(Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002**

*Made* - - - - - *4th November 2002*

*Coming into operation* *25th November 2002*

The Department for Social Development, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 122(1)(a), 123(1)(e) and 171(1), (3) and (4) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(a) and Articles 3(2C) and 36(2) of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(b), and now vested in it(c), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Income Support (General) and Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 and shall come into operation on 25th November 2002.

(2) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(d) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

**Amendment of the Income Support (General) Regulations**

2. In Schedule 1B (prescribed categories of person) to the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(e) in paragraph 14(b) (pregnancy) after the word "ends" there shall be inserted "where the expected week of confinement begins prior to 6th April 2003 or fifteen weeks after the date on which her pregnancy ends where the expected week of confinement begins on or after 6th April 2003".

**Amendment of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations**

3. In regulation 3E(2)(i) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996(f) (entitlement of a member of a joint-claim couple to a jobseeker's allowance without a claim being made jointly by the couple) after the word "ends" there shall be inserted "where the expected week of confinement begins prior to 6th April 2003 or fifteen weeks after the date on which her pregnancy ends where the expected week of confinement begins on or after 6th April 2003".

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(a) 1992 c. 7

(b) S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15); Article 3(2C) was inserted by paragraph 3(3) of Schedule 7 to the Welfare Reform and Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I. 11))

(c) See Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481

(d) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

(e) S.R. 1987 No. 459; Schedule 1B was inserted by regulation 22 of and Schedule 1 to S.R. 1996 No. 199

(f) S.R. 1996 No. 198; regulation 3E was inserted by regulation 2(2) of S.R. 2000 No. 350 and amended by regulation 2(b) of S.R. 2002 No. 236

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Social Development on 4th November 2002.

(L.S.)

*John O'Neill*

Senior Officer of the Department for Social Development

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations further amend the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996.

Regulation 2 extends entitlement to income support, where a woman is or has been pregnant and has an expected week of confinement beginning on or after 6th April 2003, to a period commencing 11 weeks before her expected week of confinement and ending fifteen weeks after the date on which her pregnancy ends.

Regulation 3 makes similar provision in respect of joint-claim couples under the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions 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, are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

These Regulations do not impose any charge on business.

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