STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2003 No. 168

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Maternity Allowance) (Earnings) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003

Made - - - -	*12th March 2003*
Coming into operation	*6th April 2003*

The Department for Social Development, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 35A(4) and (6) and 171(1), (3) and (4) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(**1**), and now vested in it(**2**), 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 (Maternity Allowance) (Earnings) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 and shall come into operation on 6th April 2003.

Amendment of the Social Security (Maternity Allowance) (Earnings) Regulations

2.—(1) The Social Security (Maternity Allowance) (Earnings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000(**3**) shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) For regulation 5(**4**) (the specified period) there shall be substituted the following regulation –

"**The specified period**

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), for the purposes of section 35A(4) and (5) of the Contributions and Benefits Act, the specified period shall be the test period.

(2) Where a woman is treated by virtue of regulation 3(a) as having received payments for at least 13 weeks (whether consecutive or not) falling within the test period, the first 13 such weeks shall be the specified period.".

(**1**) 1992 c. 7; section 35A was inserted by Article 50(3) of the Welfare Reform and Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I. 11)) and subsection (6) is substituted by paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to the Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2002 (c. 10 (N.I.))
(**2**) *See* Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481
(**3**) S.R. 2000 No. 104
(**4**) Regulation 5 was substituted by regulation 6(4) of S.R. 2002 No. 354