1995 No. 479

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Credits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995

Made . . . . . 18th December 1995

Coming into operation . . 29th January 1996

The Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 22(5) 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 (Credits) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and shall come into operation on 29th January 1996.

Insertion of regulation 7C in the Social Security (Credits) Regulations

2. In the Social Security (Credits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(**b**) after regulation 7B(**c**) (credits for disability working allowance) there shall be inserted the following regulation—

"*Credits for family credit*

7C.—(1) For the purposes of entitlement to a Category A or a Category B retirement pension, a widowed mother's allowance or a widow's pension by virtue of a person's earnings or contributions, where family credit is paid for any week in respect of—

(*a*) an employed earner; or

(*b*) a self-employed earner who is excepted from liability to pay Class 2 contributions by virtue of his earnings being less than, or being treated by regulations as less than, the amount specified in section 11(4) of the Contributions and Benefits Act(**d**) (exception from liability for Class 2 contributions on account of small earnings),

that person shall, subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), be credited with earnings equal to the lower earnings limit then in force in respect of that week.

(**a**) 1992 c. 7

(**b**) S.R. 1975 No. 113; relevant amending regulations are S.R. 1988 No. 276, S.R. 1991 No. 528 and S.R. 1995 No. 150

(**c**) Regulation 7B was inserted by S.R. 1991 No. 528

(**d**) Section 11(4) was amended by S.R. 1995 No. 79; definition of "the Contributions and Benefits Act" was inserted into S.R. 1975 No. 113 by S.R. 1995 No. 150; *see* also regulation 25 of S.R. 1979 No. 186