1987 No. 99

STATUTORY MATERNITY PAY

The Statutory Maternity Pay (Medical Evidence) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987

Made	*6th March 1987*
Coming into operation . .	*15th March 1987*

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by paragraph 6(*a*) of Schedule 4 to the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1986(**a**) 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 Statutory Maternity Pay (Medical Evidence) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 and shall come into operation on 15th March 1987.

(2) In these regulations—

"doctor" means a registered medical practitioner;

"registered midwife" means a midwife who is registered as a midwife with the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting under the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979(**b**);

"signature" means, in relation to any certificate given in accordance with these regulations, the name by which the person giving that certificate is usually known (any name other than the surname being either in full or otherwise indicated) written by that person in his own handwriting.

Evidence of pregnancy and confinement

2. The evidence as to pregnancy and the expected date of confinement which a woman is required to provide to a person who is liable to pay her statutory maternity pay shall be furnished in the form of a maternity certificate given by a doctor or by a registered midwife, not earlier than the beginning of the 14th week before the expected week of confinement, in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of the Schedule in the appropriate form as set out in Part II of that Schedule.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 6th March 1987.

(L.S.) *A. N. Burns*
Assistant Secretary

(a) S.I. 1986/1888 (N.I. 18) (b) 1979 c. 36

SCHEDULE Regulation 2

PART I

Rules

1. In these rules any reference to a woman is a reference to the woman in respect of whom a maternity certificate is given in accordance with these rules.

2. A maternity certificate shall be given by a doctor or registered midwife attending the woman and shall not be given by the woman herself.

3. The maternity certificate shall be on a form provided by the Department for the purpose and the wording shall be that set out in the appropriate part of the form specified in Part II.

4. Every maternity certificate shall be completed in ink or other indelible substance and shall contain the following particulars:

(*a*) the woman's name;

(*b*) the week in which the woman is expected to be confined or, if the maternity certificate is given after confinement, the date of that confinement and the week in which the confinement was expected to take place where this is later than the actual confinement;

(*c*) the date of the examination on which the maternity certificate is based;

(*d*) the date on which the maternity certificate is signed; and

(*e*) the address of the doctor or where the maternity certificate is signed by a registered midwife either her registered number or address,

and shall bear opposite the word "Signature", the signature of the person giving the maternity certificate written after there has been entered on the maternity certificate the woman's name and the expected week or, as the case may be, the date of the confinement.

5. After a maternity certificate has been given, no further maternity certificate based on the same examination shall be furnished other than a maternity certificate by way of replacement of an original which has been lost or mislaid, in which case it shall be clearly marked "duplicate".