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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1977 No. 7**

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**The Child Benefit (Northern Ireland  
Reciprocal Arrangements) Regulations 1977**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>6th January 1977</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>17th January 1977</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		<i>7th February 1977</i>

The Secretary of State for Social Services, in exercise of powers conferred upon him by section 14 of the Child Benefit Act 1975 and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland Reciprocal Arrangements) Regulations 1977 and shall come into operation on 7th February 1977.

(2) Any reference in these regulations to any provision made by or contained in any enactment or instrument shall, except in so far as the context otherwise requires, be construed as a reference to that provision as amended or extended by any enactment or instrument.

(3) The rules for the construction of Acts of Parliament contained in the Interpretation Act 1889 shall apply for the purposes of the interpretation of these regulations as they apply for the purposes of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

**Modification of the Child Benefit Act 1975 and certain regulations**

2.—(1) The provisions contained in the Memorandum of Reciprocal Arrangements set out in Schedule 1 to these regulations shall have effect so far as the same relate to Great Britain, and Part I of the Child Benefit Act 1975 and regulations made under that Part shall have effect subject to such modifications as may be required in them for the purpose of giving effect to the said provisions.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to paragraph (1) above any provision of Part I of the Child Benefit Act 1975 specified in column 1 of Schedule 2 to these regulations (“the column 1 provision”) shall be adapted so that any act, omission, event or other matter to which the provision of the Northern Ireland legislation specified in the corresponding paragraph of column 2 of the said Schedule relates is deemed to be an act, omission, event or other matter to which the column 1 provision relates; and in that provision references to the Secretary of State shall be construed as including references to the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland.

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6th January 1977

*David Ennals*  
Secretary of State for Social Services

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 2(1)

MEMORANDUM OF RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS RELATING TO  
SCHEMES OF CHILD BENEFIT MADE BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE TREASURY,  
OF THE ONE PART AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL  
SERVICES FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, OF THE OTHER PART

1.—(1) In this Memorandum, unless the context otherwise requires:—

“legislation” means, in relation to Great Britain, the Child Benefit Act 1975 hereafter referred to as “the Act”, and, in relation to Northern Ireland, the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland) Order 1975, hereafter referred to as “the Order”, in each case as amended, modified, adapted, extended, supplemented, replaced or consolidated by any subsequent enactment or by any instrument other than one made for the purpose only of giving effect to the provisions of any agreement applying to one of the two territories with the government of any country outside the United Kingdom providing for reciprocity in matters relating to payments for purposes similar or comparable to the purposes of the schemes;

“the Residence and Persons Abroad Regulations” means, in relation to regulations made under the Act, the Child Benefit (Residence and Persons Abroad) Regulations 1976 and, in relation to regulations made under the Order, the Child Benefit (Residence and Persons Abroad) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1976;

“claimant” means a person who has claimed child benefit and the expression includes, in relation to an award or decision, a person entitled to receive child benefit under the award or directly affected by the decision;

“determining authority” means, in relation to Great Britain, an insurance officer, a local tribunal, the Chief National Insurance Commissioner or any other National Insurance Commissioner or a tribunal of three National Insurance Commissioners, as the case may require, and in relation to Northern Ireland, an insurance officer, a local tribunal, a National Insurance Commissioner, or a tribunal of two or three National Insurance Commissioners, as the case may require;

“schemes” means, in relation to Great Britain, the scheme contained in Part I of the Act and, in relation to Northern Ireland, the scheme contained in Part II of the Order;

“territory” means Great Britain or Northern Ireland, as the case may require.

(2) Unless the context requires otherwise, in the application of this Memorandum to a territory, expressions used in this memorandum shall have the same respective meanings as in the Act or the Order which relates to that territory.

(3) The rules for the construction of Acts of Parliament contained in the Interpretation Act 1889 shall apply for the purposes of the interpretation of this Memorandum as they apply for the purposes of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. For the purposes of all or any of the provisions of the schemes of child benefit established by the Act or by the Order, acts, omissions and events, and in particular presence, employment and the claiming or payment of child benefit, having effect for all or any of those purposes in one territory shall have corresponding effect for all or any of those purposes in the other territory.

3. An appeal from or review of any decision of a determining authority under the legislation of one territory may, if the claimant is in the other territory, be decided by a determining authority under the legislation of the other territory.

4. Part II of the Residence and Persons Abroad Regulations shall not apply to a person who is absent from a territory for any period during which he is present in the other territory.

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5. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 2 and 3 of this Memorandum:—
- (a) where a person would be entitled to child benefit in respect of the same child for the same week under both the Act and the Order, he shall only be entitled to the benefit payable under the legislation of the Party in whose territory he is present;
  - (b) where two or more persons would be entitled to child benefit in respect of the same child for the same week under the Act or the Order or both, one of them only shall be entitled; and the question of which of them is entitled shall be determined in accordance with the legislation of the Party in whose territory the child is present.
6. The arrangements in this Memorandum shall come into operation on 7th February 1977, but either Party may terminate them by giving not less than six months' notice in writing to the other.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 2(2)

ADAPTATIONS OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE CHILD BENEFIT ACT 1975

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Provision of the Child Benefit Act 1975</i>	<i>Provision of the Child Benefit (Northern Ireland) Order 1975</i>	<i>Subject matter</i>
Section 11	Article 13	Offences and prosecutions
Section 12	Article 14	Benefit to be inalienable

Signed, on 16th November 1976.

*David Ennals*  
Secretary of State for Social Services

We consent.

*J. Dormand*  
*David Stoddart*  
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 8th December 1976.

*N. Dugdale*  
Secretary

The Department of Finance for Northern Ireland hereby consents.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland on 9th December 1976

*W.E. Bell*  
Secretary

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

These Regulations give effect in Great Britain to reciprocal arrangements relating to matters for which provision is made in Great Britain by Part I of the Child Benefit Act 1975. The arrangements are contained in the Memorandum set out in Schedule 1 to the Regulations and have been made between the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland. The Regulations make adaptations to provisions of the Child Benefit Act 1975 (which are set out in Schedule 2) as to administration and enforcement so that certain matters to which corresponding provisions of the Northern Ireland legislation relate are deemed to be matters to which the provisions of the 1975 Act relate.