

1971. No. 384

[C]

**MOTOR CYCLES: MINIMUM AGE FOR DRIVING**

REGULATIONS\*, DATED 7TH DECEMBER 1971, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 2(5) OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of the powers vested in it by Section 2(5) of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Cycles (Minimum Age For Driving) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971 and shall come into operation on 17th December 1971.

2.—(1) A person under seventeen years shall not drive a motor cycle on a road.

(2) This Regulation shall not apply to—

(a) motor cycles whereof the cylinder capacity of the engine does not exceed 50 cubic centimetres, being cycles equipped with pedals by means whereof they are capable of being propelled,

(b) motor cycles being mowing machines, or

(c) motor cycles being vehicles controlled by a pedestrian.

(3) In this Regulation, “controlled by a pedestrian” means that the vehicle either—

(a) is constructed or adapted for use only under such control, or

(b) is constructed or adapted for use either under such control or under the control of a person carried on it but is not for the time being in use under, or proceeding under the control of a person carried on it.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 7th day of December 1971.

(L.S.)

*W. G. Robinson,*  
Assistant Secretary.

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(a) 1970. c. 2 (N.I.).

\*These Regulations were affirmed by Resolution of the Senate on the 15th December 1971 and by Resolution of the House of Commons on the 16th December 1971.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These Regulations raise from 16 to 17 the minimum age for driving motor cycles, other than those having an engine capacity not exceeding 50 cc and equipped with pedals (commonly known as "mopeds"), those which are mowing machines or are vehicles controlled by a pedestrian. (The term "motor cycle" includes three-wheeled vehicles not exceeding 8 cwt. unladen weight.) By virtue of the provision in Section 2(6) of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970 a person holding a full or provisional driving licence for motor cycles or who has passed a test appropriate to motor cycles before the coming into force of the Regulations will not be prevented by the raising of the minimum age from driving motor cycles of the class or description to which the licence relates.