

## SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULE 3

#### FURTHER AMENDMENTS OF DEVOLUTION LEGISLATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT

#### PART 3

##### OTHER AMENDMENTS OF DEVOLUTION LEGISLATION

##### *Northern Ireland Act 1998*

58 After section 96 (orders and regulations) insert—

##### **“96A Explanatory statements in relation to certain regulations**

- (1) This section applies where a draft of a statutory instrument containing regulations under section 6A or 24(3) is to be laid before each House of Parliament.
- (2) Before the draft is laid, the Minister of the Crown who is to make the instrument—
  - (a) must make a statement explaining the effect of the instrument, and
  - (b) in any case where the Assembly has not made a decision to agree a motion consenting to the laying of the draft—
    - (i) must make a statement explaining why the Minister has decided to lay the draft despite this, and
    - (ii) must lay before each House of Parliament any statement provided for the purpose of this sub-paragraph to a Minister of the Crown by a relevant Minister giving the opinion of the relevant Minister as to why the Assembly has not made that decision.
- (3) A statement of a Minister of the Crown under subsection (2) must be made in writing and be published in such manner as the Minister making it considers appropriate.
- (4) For the purposes of this section, where a draft is laid before each House of Parliament on different days, the earlier day is to be taken as the day on which it is laid before both Houses.
- (5) In this section “relevant Minister” means the First Minister and the deputy First Minister acting jointly or a Northern Ireland Minister.
- (6) This section does not apply to a draft of an instrument which only contains regulations under section 6A or 24(3) which only relate to a revocation of a specification.”