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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 to provide for continuity of employment in respect of a dismissal where a woman commences a statutory dispute resolution procedure and as a consequence of that procedure is reinstated or re-engaged by her employer. The amendment has effect in relation to a reinstatement or re-engagement of employment occurring on or after 6th April 2005.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

These Regulations impose minimal costs on business.