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SOCIAL SECURITY (EXEMPTIONS FROM MANDATORY INTERVIEWS AND WORK TESTS) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 1997

MICHAEL HARDIE BOYS, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At Wellington this 24th day of March 1997

Present:

THE RIGHT HON J B BOLGER PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to section 132 of the Social Security Act 1964, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, makes the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. Title and commencement—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Exemptions from Mandatory Interviews and Work Tests) Amendment Regulations 1997, and are part of the Social Security (Exemptions from Mandatory Interviews and Work Tests) Regulations 1996* ("the principal regulations").

(2) These regulations come into force on 1 April 1997.

2. Grounds for exemption from work test—(1) Regulation 4 (2) of the principal regulations is amended by inserting, after paragraph (a), the following paragraph:

"(aa) In the case of a work-tested domestic purposes beneficiary or a work-tested spouse or a work-tested widow's beneficiary, the person has primary responsibility for the day to day care of a child, other than on a temporary basis, and the child is—

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"(i) Aged less than 14 years; and

"(ii) Not a dependent child of that person; or".

(2) Regulation 4 (2) of the principal regulations is amended by inserting, after paragraph (c), the following paragraph:

"(ca) In the case of a work-tested spouse, he or she is—

"(i) Participating in a full-time course of approved education or training; or

"(ii) Enrolled in a full-time course of secondary instruction, and was so participating or enrolled at the time he or she was required to comply with section 60HC of the Act; or".

(3) Regulation 4 of the principal regulations is amended by adding the following subclause:

"(3) In this regulation, 'approved education or training' has the same meaning as in section 60 HC (8) of the Act."

MARIE SHROFF, Clerk of the Executive Council.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which come into force on 1 April 1997, amend the Social Security (Exemptions from Mandatory Interviews and Work Tests) Regulations 1996.

This amendment relates to the grounds on which exemptions from work-testing may be granted. Work-testing is required by section 60HC of the Social Security Act 1964 for certain beneficiaries. However, section 60HD of that Act provides for exemptions on grounds prescribed by regulations. These regulations add 2 new grounds. One new ground relates to certain work-tested beneficiaries who care for children who are aged less than 14 years and are not dependent children of those beneficiaries. The other new ground relates to worktested spouses who participate in a full-time course of approved education or training or are enrolled in a full-time course of secondary instruction.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989. Date of notification in *Gazette:* 27 March 1997. These regulations are administered in the Department of Social Welfare.