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S.R.O. 22/1977. S.R.O. 30/1978. S.I. 25/1986.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY (BENEFITS) (INVALIDITY PENSION AND GRANTS) REGULATIONS, DATED 22ND DAY OF JULY, 1977, MADE UNDER SECTIONS 29, 30, AND 31 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Social Citation. Security (Benefits) (Invalidity Pension and Grants) Regulations.

2. In these Regulations—

Interpretation.

- "average earnings" for the purpose of computing invalidity benefits means the average annual insurable earnings of the best five contribution years in the last ten contribution years immediately preceding the year in which invalidity begins; but in the case of an insured person who has contributed for less than five contribution years, "average earnings" means the average annual earnings over the number of years being less than five;
- "contribution years" means any calendar year in which an insured person pays thirteen or more weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof;
- "annual insurable earnings" in any contribution year for the purpose of computing average earnings means the total insurable earnings in those weeks for which contributions are paid, increased in the proportion that 52 bears to the number of weekly contributions paid in that year;
- "invalid" means a person incapable of work as a result of a specific disease or bodily or mental disable-

ment which is likely to remain permanent, otherwise than as a result of employment injury.

Entitlement.

- 3. Subject to the provisions of these regulations invalidity benefit shall be paid in respect of any insured person who—
 - (a) is an invalid; and
 - (b) has not attained the age of 60 years.

Type of invalidity benefit.

- 4. Invalidity benefit shall consist of—
 - (a) invalidity pension; or
 - (b) invalidity grant.

Invalidity pension.

- 5. Subject to regulation 6 a person shall be entitled to an invalidity pension if he—
 - (a) has not attained the age of 60 years;
 - (b) is an invalid; and
 - (c) has paid not less than 156 weekly contributions or the monthly equivalent thereof.

Rate of invalidity pension.

6. The pension payable in respect of a person entitled under regulation 5 shall be paid at an annual rate of twenty-five per centum of the average earnings increased by one per centum of such average earnings in respect of each complete fifty weekly contributions (or the monthly equivalent thereof) in excess of five hundred:

Provided that where the number of weekly contributions does not exceed five hundred the rate of pension shall be subject to a minimum rate of twenty-two dollars and fifty cents a week and a maximum rate of thirty-seven dollars and fifty cents a week.

Provided that in no case shall an invalidity pension exceed fifty per centum of the average earnings.

Invalidity grant.

- 7. A person who does not qualify for an invalidity pension under regulation 5 shall be entitled to an invalidity grant if—
 - (a) he has not attained the age 60;
 - (b) he is an invalid;