STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 2048

EVIDENCE

The Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) (Review) Regulations 2015

Made - - - - 14th December 2015
Laid before Parliament 17th December 2015
Coming into force - - 11th January 2016

The Lord Chancellor makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers in section 22(1) of the Family Law Reform Act 1969(1).

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) (Review) Regulations 2015 and come into force on 11th January 2016.

Amendment of the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

2. In the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) Regulations 2015(2), after regulation 2 (amendment of the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) Regulations 1971), insert—

"Review

- **3.**—(1) The Secretary of State must from time to time—
 - (a) carry out a review of the effect on the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) Regulations 1971 of the amendments made by regulation 2;
 - (b) set out the conclusions of the review in a report, and
 - (c) publish the report.
- (2) The report must in particular—
 - (a) set out the objectives intended to be achieved by the regulatory system as amended by regulation 2,

^{(1) 1969} c. 46. Section 22 was amended by paragraph 23 of Schedule 2 to the Family Law Reform Act 1987 (c. 42) and by section 82 of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act 2000 (c. 19). The powers were vested in the Lord Chancellor by article 3 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Transfer of Functions (Magistrates' Courts and Family Law) Order 1992 (S.I. 1992/709).

⁽²⁾ S.I. 2015/1834.

- (b) assess the extent to which those objectives are achieved, and
- (c) assess whether those objectives remain appropriate and, if so, the extent to which they could be achieved with a system that imposes less regulation.
- (3) The first report under this regulation must be published before the end of the period of one year beginning with the day on which regulation 2 came into force.
- (4) Reports under this regulation are afterwards to be published at intervals not exceeding five years.".

Caroline Dinenage
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Justice

14th December 2015

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/1834) ("the 2015 Regulations") to insert a review provision.

New regulation 3 of the 2015 Regulations requires the Secretary of State to review the operation and effect of the amendments made by the 2015 Regulations to the Blood Tests (Evidence of Paternity) Regulations 1971 (S.I. 1971/1861) ("the 1971 Regulations") and publish a report within one year after the 2015 Regulations come into force and within every five years after that. Following a review it will fall to the Secretary of State to consider whether the amendments made by the 2015 Regulations to the 1971 Regulations should remain as they are, or be revoked or be amended. A further instrument would be needed to revoke the Regulations or to amend them.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sectors is foreseen.