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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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1976 No. 1341 (N.I. 24)

NORTHERN IRELAND

**The Firearms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1976**

*Made* - - - 17th August 1976  
*Laid before Parliament* 18th August 1976  
*Coming into Operation* 19th August 1976

At the Court at Balmoral, the 17th day of August 1976

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas it has been made to appear to Her Majesty that by reason of urgency this Order requires to be made without a draft having been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, in exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974(a) and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

*Title and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Firearms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1976 and shall come into operation on 19th August 1976.

*Interpretation*

2. The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(b) shall apply to Article 1 and the following provisions of this Order as it applies to a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

*Punishment for firearms offences*

3.—(1) Column 4 of Schedule 2 to the Firearms Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(c) (which shows the maximum punishment by way of fine or imprisonment for offences under that Act) shall have effect subject to the amendments specified in paragraph (2).

(2) In the entries showing the maximum punishment on conviction on indictment for offences under section 17 (carrying a loaded firearm in a public

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(a) 1974 c. 28.

(b) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.).

(c) 1969 c. 12 (N.I.).

place), section 18(1) (trespassing with a firearm in any building), and section 19A (inserted by section 1 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(a)—possession of firearms or ammunition in suspicious circumstances), for the words “5 years” there shall be substituted, in each case, the words “10 years”.

*N. E. Leigh.*

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order provides for an increase in the maximum penalties on conviction on indictment for certain offences under the Firearms Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 relating to the possession of firearms, or in one case ammunition, in particular circumstances.

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(a) 1971 c. 25 (N.I.).