



House of Commons

NOTICES OF AMENDMENTS

given up to and including

Thursday 3 September 2015

New Amendments handed in are marked thus ★

☆ *Amendments which will comply with the required notice period at their next appearance*

Amendments tabled since the last publication: 76

PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE

WELFARE REFORM AND WORK BILL

NOTE

This document includes all amendments tabled to date, arranged in the order they relate to the Bill.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

22

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, leave out “Parliament” and insert “the House of Commons, the Scottish Parliament, the Northern Ireland Assembly and the National Assembly for Wales”

Member’s explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to report to the elected chambers across the UK with a responsibility for policies that can contribute to full employment.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

1

Clause 1, page 1, line 4, leave out from “and” to end of subsection and insert “for the purposes of this report “full employment” is defined as 80% of the working age population.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To specify that the purpose of reporting on progress toward full employment, full employment is defined as 80% of the working population.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

2

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, at end insert—

“(1A) In this report the Secretary of State must also set out the progress that has been made toward halving the disability employment gap.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To require the report on progress towards full employment to also report on progress towards the Government’s stated aim to halve the disability employment gap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

23

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, at end insert—

“(1A) The Secretary of State will appear before a Committee in each of the Scottish Parliament, Northern Ireland Assembly and the National Assembly for Wales to answer questions about the report.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to appear before a committee in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to answer questions about the full employment report.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

24

Clause 1, page 1, line 7, leave out subsection (2)

Member’s explanatory statement

This would remove the provision that repeals the full employment reporting obligation at the end of the current Parliament.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

75

- ☆ Clause 2, page 1, line 16, at end insert—
- “(aa) information about the uptake of apprenticeships broken down by region, gender, age, ethnicity, disability, sector, qualification and level,
- (ab) a report by the UK Commission on Employment and Skills on the quality of apprenticeship being provided, and”

Member’s explanatory statement

To specify additional information that must be included in the Secretary of State’s report progress towards meeting the apprenticeship target.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

4

- Clause 3, page 2, line 46, at end insert—
- “(2A) The matters by which the progress made by a household that receives relevant support shall be measured under subsection (1)(b) include whether a member of the household is in employment.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This requires one of the factors which is used to measure whether a household receive support is making progress is whether or a not a member of the household is employed.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

5

- Clause 3, page 3, line 6, at end insert—
- “(4A) A report prepared under this section must include information about the number of households receiving support where a member of the household, who had not previously been in employment during the last 12 month, has entered employment.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To require the report on support for troubled households to specify the number of households receiving support where a member of the household has become employed.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

6

- Clause 3, page 3, line 6, at end insert—
- “(4A) A report prepared under this section must include information about the total value of expenditure directed at supporting relevant households by—
- (a) local government,

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

- (b) central government, and
(c) government agencies.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To require the report on support for troubled households to specify how much has been spent to support targeted households by different parts of government.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 5, page 5, leave out lines 16 to 27 and insert—

7

“5 Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission: additional functions

- (1) After Section 8A of the Child Poverty Act 2010 insert—”

Member’s explanatory statement

To leave the name of the “Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission” unchanged.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 5, page 6, leave out lines 15 and 16

Member’s explanatory statement

A consequential amendment to amendment 7 to leave the name of the “Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission” unchanged.

8

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 6, page 6, line 18, leave out subsection 1

Member’s explanatory statement

Leave child poverty targets and measures unchanged.

9

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

Clause 6, page 7, leave out from beginning of line 25 to end of Clause

Member’s explanatory statement

Leave child poverty targets and measures unchanged.

10

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

25

Clause 7, page 8, line 32, leave out subsection (2)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove the changes to the benefit cap.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

11

Clause 7, page 8, line 36, at end insert—

“() Regulations under this section shall not be made in relation to persons—

- (a) responsible for the care of a child aged below 2;
- (b) responsible for the care of and in receipt of Carers Allowance in respect of, but not living with, a person in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment;
- (c) in temporary accommodation following an incident or incidents of domestic violence.”

Member's explanatory statement

To provide that the benefit cap does not apply to benefit claimants who will find it most difficult to enter work.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

26

Clause 7, page 8, line 38, leave out “£23,000 or £15,410” and insert “£26,000 or £18,200”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would keep the benefit cap level in London at the same rate as today.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

27

Clause 7, page 8, line 39, leave out “£20,000 or £13,400” and insert “£26,000 or £18,200”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would keep the benefit cap level outside London at the same rate as today.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Emily Thornberry
 Dawn Butler
 Wes Streeting
 Stephen Pound
 Mr Steve Reed

67

☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—

“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide for an exemption from the benefit cap for persons living in temporary accommodation into which they have been placed by a local authority which has found them to be in priority need (as defined in Part 7 of the House Act 1996 and the Homelessness (Priority Need for Accommodation)(England) Order 2002).”

Member’s explanatory statement

To provide that the benefit cap will not apply to homeless families living in temporary accommodation after being assessed as having a priority need.

Emily Thornberry
 Dawn Butler
 Wes Streeting
 Stephen Pound
 Mr Steve Reed

68

☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—

“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide for an exemption from the benefit cap for claimants of Jobseeker’s Allowance, including income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance (as defined in section 1 (4) of the Jobseekers Act 1995) where the claimant has not received a reasonable offer of a job.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To provide that the benefit cap will not apply to job seekers who have not received a reasonable offer of employment.

Emily Thornberry
 Dawn Butler
 Wes Streeting
 Stephen Pound
 Mr Steve Reed

69

☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—

“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide an exemption from the benefit cap for persons in receipt of —

- (a) carer’s allowance (see section 70 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),
- (b) employment and support allowance, including income-related employment and support allowance (as defined in section 1(7) of the Welfare Reform Act 2007) (see section 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007),
- (c) incapacity benefit (see section 30A of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),
- (d) income support (see section 124 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992),

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

- (e) severe disablement allowance (see section 68 of the Social Security, Contributions and Benefits Act 1992).”

Member’s explanatory statement

To provide that the benefit cap may not be applied to anyone claiming Carer’s Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Income Support or Severe Disablement Allowance.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

70

- ☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 5, at end insert—

“(5C) Regulations under this section must provide for an exemption from the benefit cap for persons in receipt of Universal Credit who are not subject to all work-search requirements as set out in Section 22 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To provide that the benefit cap may not be applied to anyone claiming Universal Credit who is not subject to work-search requirements.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

71

- ☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 6, leave out subsection (3)

Member’s explanatory statement

To retain the current link between the benefit cap and estimated average earnings.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

28

- Clause 7, page 9, line 9, leave out paragraph (a)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would remove bereavement allowance from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

29

- Clause 7, page 9, line 11, leave out paragraph (b)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would remove carer’s allowance from the benefit cap.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Emily Thornberry
 Dawn Butler
 Wes Streeting
 Stephen Pound
 Mr Steve Reed

72

- ☆ Clause 7, page 9, line 11, leave out paragraphs (b), (e), (h), (i) and (l)
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment is consequential to amendment 69.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

30

- Clause 7, page 9, line 13, leave out paragraph (c)
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would remove child benefit from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

31

- Clause 7, page 9, line 15, leave out paragraph (d)
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would remove child tax credit from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

32

- Clause 7, page 9, line 21, leave out paragraph (f)
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would remove guardian's allowance from the benefit cap.

Dawn Butler

76

- ★ Clause 7, page 9, line 23, leave out paragraph (g)
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment would remove housing benefit from the benefit cap.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

33

Clause 7, page 9, line 33, leave out paragraph (k)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove maternity allowance from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

34

Clause 7, page 9, line 35, leave out paragraph (l)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove severe disablement allowance from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

35

Clause 7, page 9, line 38, leave out paragraph (n)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove widow's pension from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

36

Clause 7, page 9, line 40, leave out paragraph (o)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove widowed mother's allowance from the benefit cap.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

37

Clause 7, page 9, line 42, leave out paragraph (p)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove widowed parent's allowance from the benefit cap.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

38

Clause 7, page 9, line 44, leave out subsection (5)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential to amendment 25.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

12

Clause 8, page 10, line 22, leave out “in each Parliament” and insert “a year”

Member's explanatory statement

To require the Secretary of State to review the level of the benefit cap every year to determine whether it is appropriate to change the level of the cap.

Emily Thornberry
 Dawn Butler
 Wes Streeting
 Stephen Pound
 Mr Steve Reed

73

☆ Clause 8, page 10, line 31, leave out paragraph (b) and insert—

- “(b) The relationship between the level of the cap and average earnings, and
- (c) Regional variations in the cost of housing.”

Member's explanatory statement

To remove the provision allowing the Secretary of State to set the level of the benefit cap by reference to “any other matters [he] considers relevant” and to instead require that the cap should be set by reference to average earnings and regional variations to adjust for differences in the cost of housing.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

13

Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—

- “(c) an annual report made by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of the benefit cap.”

Member's explanatory statement

To require the Secretary of State to take into account an annual report by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of the benefit cap when undertaking his review of the benefit cap.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

74

☆ Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—

- “(c) annual reports on the impact of the benefit cap on the wellbeing of children made by the:
- (i) Children’s Commissioners for England;
 - (ii) Children’s Commissioner for Scotland;
 - (iii) Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People; and
 - (iv) Commissioner for Children and Young People, Northern Ireland, following the introduction of the benefit cap in Northern Ireland.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To require the Secretary of State, when reviewing the level of the benefit cap, to take into account an annual report by the Children’s Commissioners for England, Scotland, Wales on the impact of the benefit cap on the wellbeing of children. Should the benefit cap be introduced in Northern Ireland the Secretary of State shall also be required to take account of a similar report by the Children’s Commissioner for Northern Ireland.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

14

Clause 8, page 10, line 31, at end insert—

- “(3A) The report made by the Social Security Advisory Committee on the level of benefit cap, under subsection 3c, must include an assessment of the impact of the benefit cap on the Discretionary Housing Payments Funds administered by local authorities.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To require the Social Security Advisory Committee’s annual report on the level of the benefit cap to include an assessment of the impact of the benefit cap on Discretionary Housing Payments.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

15

Clause 9, page 11, line 32, leave out from “relevant sums” to end of subsection and insert “are to be reviewed by the Secretary of State having given regard to—

- (a) the rate of inflation, and
- (b) the national economic situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To subject the four year freeze in the social security payments set out in paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to an annual review of the levels by the Secretary of State. This review will consider both the rate of inflation and the national economic situation.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

39

Clause 9, page 11, line 32, leave out from “relevant sums” to end of subsection and insert “is to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would see relevant benefits increasing in line with the consumer price index.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

16

Clause 9, page 11, line 35, leave out from “child benefit” to end of subsection and insert “are to be reviewed by the Secretary of State having given regard to—

- (a) the rate of inflation, and
- (b) the national economic situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To subject the four year freeze in child benefit to an annual review of the levels by the Secretary of State. This review will consider both the rate of inflation and the national economic situation.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

40

Clause 9, page 11, line 35, leave out from “child benefit” to end of subsection and insert “are to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would see child benefit increasing in line with the consumer price index.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

41

Clause 9, page 11, line 37, leave out subsections (3) and (4)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential to the amendments 39 and 40.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

17

Clause 10, page 12, line 21, leave out from “relevant amounts” to end of subsection and insert “are to be reviewed by the Secretary of State having given regard to—

- (a) the rate of inflation, and
- (b) the national economic situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To subject the four year freeze in the tax credits set out in paragraph 2 of Schedule 1 to an annual review of the levels by the Secretary of State. This review will consider both the rate of inflation and the national economic situation.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

42

Clause 10, page 12, line 21, leave out from “relevant amounts” to end of subsection and insert “is to increase in line with the consumer price index.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would see tax credits increasing in line with the consumer price index.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Emily Thornberry

43

Page 12, line 32, leave out Clause 11

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would see current arrangements for child tax credit remaining in place.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

44

Clause 11, page 12, line 39, leave out “2017” and insert “2022”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would see current arrangements for child tax credit remaining in place for children born before 6 April 2022.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

45

Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “two other children”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with three children.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

46

Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “three other children”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with four children.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

47

Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “four other children”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with five children.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

48

Clause 11, page 13, line 10, leave out “one other child” and insert “five other children”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to child tax credit for families with six children.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

Emily Thornberry

49

Page 13, line 17, leave out Clause 12

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would remove changes to entitlement to the child element of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

50

Clause 12, page 13, line 18, leave out subsections (1) to (4)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with more than two children.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

51

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “three”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with three children.

Angus Robertson
Mike Weir
Dr Eilidh Whiteford
Natalie McGarry
Mhairi Black
Ian Blackford

52

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “four”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with four children.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

53

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “five”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with five children.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

54

Clause 12, page 13, line 22, leave out “two” and insert “six”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain entitlement to the child element of universal credit for families with six children.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

18

Clause 12, page 13, line 23, at end insert “unless this would result in an amount no longer being paid in respect of a child or young person who was born before 6 April 2017, in which case a payment shall still be made in respect of this child or young person.”

Member’s explanatory statement

To ensure that the reduction of the child element of Universal Credit to two children only affect children born after 6 April 2017.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

20

Page 14, line 1, leave out Clause 13

Member’s explanatory statement

This prevent the changes to the work-related component of the employment and support allowance.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

55

Page 14, line 25, leave out Clause 14

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would retain the limited capability for work element of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

56

Page 14, line 28, leave out Clause 15

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would retain the current conditionality requirements for work related activity / work focused interviews/ work preparation for those claimants with children under 5 in receipt of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

57

Clause 15, page 14, line 31, leave out paragraph (a)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would keep the "work-focused interview requirement only" for responsible carers of children aged two and three.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

62

Clause 15, page 14, line 31, leave out paragraphs (a) to (c) and insert—

“(a) in section 19(2)(c) for the words “under the age of 1” substitute “who has not yet started primary school”;

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment, taken together with amendment 63, would mean claimants in receipt of universal credit who are responsible carers are not subject to work focused interviews or work preparation requirements until their child starts school. From when a child starts school, relevant claimants would be required to follow all work requirements.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

58

Clause 15, page 14, line 36, after “2,”, insert “3 or 4”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain the current position for responsible carers of children aged three and four.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

59

Clause 15, page 14, line 37, leave out paragraph (c)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would retain the current position for responsible carers of children aged three and four.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

60

Clause 15, page 14, line 40, leave out paragraph (a)

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would keep the current prescribed age of three years in universal credit regulations on the “work-focused interview requirement” for responsible carers of children in receipt of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

63

Clause 15, page 14, line 40, leave out paragraphs (a) and (b) and insert—

- “(a) in regulation 91 (claimants subject to work-focused interview requirement only), for the word “3” substitute “5 or when the child starts primary school”;
- (b) in regulation 91A (claimants subject to work preparation requirement) for the words “3 or 4” substitute “who has not yet started primary school”;

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment, taken together with amendment 62, would mean claimants in receipt of universal credit who are responsible carers are not subject to work focused interviews or work preparation requirements until their child starts school. From when a child starts school, relevant claimants would be required to follow all work requirements.

 Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

61

Clause 15, page 14, line 42, leave out paragraph (b)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would keep the current age of child (which is three or four) in universal credit regulations on the work-preparation requirement for responsible carers of children in receipt of universal credit.

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

64

Page 15, line 1, leave out Clause 16

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would mean those owner-occupiers who are in receipt of an income related benefit can continue to claim additional help towards their mortgage interest payments and mitigate risk of repossession of homes instead of introducing a loan system which will be secured against their property.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

19

Clause 16, page 15, line 25, at end insert—

“(7A) The waiting period before a person can apply for a loan under this section shall be 13 weeks.”

Member's explanatory statement

To require that the waiting period before an application for a loan for mortgage interest can be made is 13 weeks.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Angus Robertson
 Mike Weir
 Dr Eilidh Whiteford
 Natalie McGarry
 Mhairi Black
 Ian Blackford

65

Page 15, line 36, leave out Clause 17
Member's explanatory statement
This amendment is consequential on amendment 64.

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

21

Clause 19, page 19, line 25, after subsection (9) insert—
 “(9A) The Secretary of State must, within 12 months of this section coming into force, produce a plan to offset the impact of lower social rents on housing associations and local government.”
Member's explanatory statement
To require the Secretary of State to produce a plan to offset the impact of lower social rents on housing associations, so that their ability to build new affordable homes is not affected.

NEW CLAUSES

Stephen Timms
 Kate Green
 Chris Leslie

NC1

To move the following Clause—

“Report on impact of benefit cap reductions

- (1) The Secretary of State must publish and lay before Parliament before the end of the financial year ending with 31 March 2017 a report on the impact of the benefit cap reductions introduced by this Bill.
- (2) The report must include an assessment of the impact on each of the measures of child poverty defined in the Child Poverty Act 2010.”

Member's explanatory statement

This new clause requires the Secretary of State to review impact of lower benefit cap after 12 months.

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

NC2

To move the following Clause—

“Local Housing Allowance

- (1) For each of the tax years ending with 5 April 2017, 5 April 2018, 5 April 2019 and 5 April 2020, the amount paid to claimants of the Local Housing Allowance is to be reviewed by the Secretary of State.
- (2) In reviewing these sums the Secretary of State shall have regard to—
 - (a) the rate of inflation,
 - (b) the national economic situation, and
 - (c) the levels of market rent.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This new clause requires the Secretary of State to review the level of the Local Housing Allowance annually, in light of the rate of inflation, levels of market rent and the national economic situation.

Stephen Timms
Kate Green
Chris Leslie

NC3

To move the following Clause—

“Exemptions to changes in child tax credit and child element of universal credit

- (1) The limit on the number of children for which child tax credit or the child element of universal credit can be claimed, as provided for clauses 11 and 12 of this Act, do not apply in the following circumstances—
 - (a) where the number of children exceeds two because the third (or subsequent) child was part of a multiple birth at the same time as the second qualifying child;
 - (b) where a third (or subsequent) child becomes a member of a household as a result of being fostered or adopted into that household;
 - (c) in exceptional circumstances as defined by the Social Security Advisory Committee, including but not limited to—
 - (i) the claimant becoming unemployed;
 - (ii) the death of one of the parents in the claimant household; and
 - (iii) one of the parents in the claimant household leaving the household following a breakdown in relationship.
- (2) The Secretary of State shall, by regulation, establish an appeals process by which an individual can appeal a decision as to whether an exemption set out in this clause applies in their individual situation.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This New Clause exempts households from the limit on the number of children for whom child tax credit or the child element of universal credit can be claimed where the limit was exceeded as a result of; multiple births, a household fostering or adopting a child, or in exceptional

Welfare Reform and Work Bill, continued

circumstances defined by the Social Security Advisory Committee. It also requires the Secretary of State to establish an appeals mechanism for decisions made under this section.

Paul Blomfield

NC4

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Personal independence payment: timing of payment

- (1) Schedule 10 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 is amended as follows.
- (2) In paragraph 1(1), at start insert “Subject to paragraph (),”
- (3) At end of paragraph 1(1), insert the following new paragraph—

“() Where a person in receipt of disability living allowance meets the requirements of section 82 of the 2012 Act his or her entitlement to disability living allowance shall terminate immediately and entitlement to personal independence payment shall commence on the same day.””.

Member’s explanatory statement

This New Clause aims to enable claimants of DLA who are transferred to PIP due to terminal illness to receive their first PIP payment immediately after being transferred. Currently claimants must wait four weeks from their final DLA payment to be made and then another four weeks to receive their first PIP payment.

Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

NC5

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Entitlement to housing benefit

- (1) Section 130A of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (Appropriate maximum housing benefit), is amended as follows.
- (2) After subsection (2) insert—

“(2A) Entitlement to housing benefit shall not be restricted in respect of a maximum number of children or qualifying young persons for whom a claimant is responsible.””

Member’s explanatory statement

To prevent the Secretary of State from limiting entitlement to housing benefit by taking into account only a certain number of children in a family.

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Emily Thornberry
Dawn Butler
Wes Streeting
Stephen Pound
Mr Steve Reed

NC6

☆ To move the following Clause—

“Entitlement to housing costs under Universal Credit

- (1) Section 11 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (Housing costs), is amended as follows.
- (2) After subsection (5) insert—

“(6) Entitlement to an amount under this section shall not be restricted in respect of a maximum number of children or qualifying young persons for whom a claimant is responsible.””

Member’s explanatory statement

To prevent the Secretary of State from limiting entitlement to housing costs under Universal Credit by taking into account only a certain number of children in a family.

ORDER OF THE HOUSE [20 JULY 2015]

That the following provisions shall apply to the Welfare Reform and Work Bill:

Committal

1. The Bill shall be committed to a Public Bill Committee.

Proceedings in Public Bill Committee

2. Proceedings in the Public Bill Committee shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion on Thursday 15 October.
3. The Public Bill Committee shall have leave to sit twice on the first day on which it meets.

Consideration and Third Reading

4. Proceedings on Consideration shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion one hour before the moment of interruption on the day on which those proceedings are commenced.
5. Proceedings on Third Reading shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at the moment of interruption on that day.
6. Standing Order No. 83B (Programming committees) shall not apply to proceedings on Consideration and Third Reading.

Other proceedings

7. Any other proceedings on the Bill (including any proceedings on consideration of Lords Amendments or on any further messages from the Lords) may be programmed.
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Welfare Reform and Work Bill, *continued*

NOTICES WITHDRAWN

The following Notices were withdrawn on 2 September:

Amendment 3
