



House of Commons

Thursday 28 April 2011

PUBLIC BILL COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

WELFARE REFORM BILL

[THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH SITTINGS]

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 57

Schedule 1, page 102, line 26, at end insert—

- ‘(7) Regulations made under this paragraph must specify that a particular amount of income should be disregarded when calculating entitlement to universal credit, including in the following circumstances—
- (a) where the claimant is disabled;
 - (b) where the claimant is a lone parent; and
 - (c) where the claimant is the second earner in a couple.
- (8) Where the claimant’s eligibility for an amount of income to be disregarded, in accordance with subsection (7), is based on two or more sets of circumstances, the amount specified for each of these sets of circumstances shall be added together to calculate the total amount to be disregarded.’.

Schedule agreed to.

Clause 32 agreed to.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 116

Schedule 2, page 104, line 15, at end insert—

- ‘6A In section 71, subsection (11), after paragraph (f) add—
- “(g) universal credit.”.’.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Negatived on division **117**

Schedule **2**, page **113**, line **35**, leave out paragraph 64.

Schedule agreed to.

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **88**

Clause **33**, page **16**, line **13**, leave out from ‘in’ to ‘an’ in line 15

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **89**

Clause **33**, page **16**, line **18**, leave out subsection (5)

Clause agreed to.

Clause 34 agreed to.

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **97**

Schedule **3**, page **114**, line **12**, at end insert—

‘4A In section 7 (relationship between benefits), in subsection (3), for “subsections (1) and (2)” there is substituted “subsection (1)”.’

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **98**

Schedule **3**, page **116**, line **27**, at end insert—

‘23A(1) Section 27 (financial provisions) is amended as follows.

- (2) In subsection (1), for the words from “so much of” to the end there is substituted “any sums payable by way of employment and support allowance”.
- (3) In subsection (3), for “contributory” there is substituted “employment and support”.’

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **99**

Schedule **3**, page **116**, line **35**, leave out paragraph (e)

Schedule agreed to.

Clause 35 agreed to.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Kate Green
Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 87

Schedule 4, page 117, line 20, at end insert ‘or
(d) to a child credit;’.

Schedule agreed to.

Clause 36 agreed to.

Schedule 5 agreed to.

Clause 37 agreed to.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Negatived on division 31

Schedule 6, page 121, line 23, at end insert—

‘(4) Before he has fixed the appointed day, the Secretary of State shall publish a report on access to welfare advice, including advice for those unable to use the Internet, and shall satisfy himself on the basis of the report that provision is adequate to support migration to Universal Credit.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 122

Schedule 6, page 121, line 23, at end insert—

‘(4) Before he has fixed the appointed day, the Secretary of State shall initiate and respond to a consultation on the treatment within universal credit of the following—

- (a) childcare provision,
- (b) eligibility for passported benefits, including free school meals and free medical prescriptions,
- (c) the treatment of the self-employed, and
- (d) the treatment of savings income.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Negatived on division 123

Schedule 6, page 121, line 23, at end insert—

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

- ‘(4) Before he has fixed the appointed day, the Secretary of State shall satisfy himself on the basis of an appropriate pilot that the system for Universal Credit functions satisfactorily.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 124

Schedule 6, page 121, line 23, at end insert—

- ‘(4) The Secretary of State shall commission a report about the implications of Universal Credit for unemployment data, before he has fixed the appointed day.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 119

Schedule 6, page 122, line 46, leave out ‘may’ and insert ‘must’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 125

Schedule 6, page 123, line 2, leave out from ‘award’ to end of line 3.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 120

Schedule 6, page 123, line 7, at end insert—

- ‘(c) any award made under this subsection shall be uprated at the same rate as other universal credit awards.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 121

Schedule 6, page 123, line 7, at end insert—

- ‘(4) Where the award for universal credit is set by virtue of subsection (3), these arrangements will be maintained except in prescribed circumstances.’.

Schedule agreed to.

Clauses 38 to 42 agreed to.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **90**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **4**, after “Part” insert ‘by the Secretary of State or the Welsh Ministers’

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran*Withdrawn* **126**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 9(2), section 10(3), section 11(4).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran*Not called* **127**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 5(1)(a) and section 5(2)(a).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran*Not called* **128**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 8(3).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran*Not called* **129**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 11(3).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran*Not called* **130**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 12.’.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called **131**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: section 25, section 26, section 27, section 28, schedule 6(5).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called **132**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: schedule 1(4).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called **133**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: schedule 6(4)(3).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called **134**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under the following parts shall be subject to the affirmative procedure: Clause 19, subsections (2), (3) and (4).’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called **162**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **7**, at end insert—

‘(2A) Regulations made under section 11(5) shall be subject to the affirmative resolution procedure.’.

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **91**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **23**, leave out subsection (6)

Chris Grayling

Agreed to **92**

Clause **43**, page **20**, line **32**, at end insert—

‘() Regulations made by the Scottish Ministers under section 33 are subject to—

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

- (a) the affirmative procedure, if they contain provision amending or repealing primary legislation, and
- (b) the negative procedure, in any other case.’

Clause agreed to.

Anas Sarwar

Withdrawn 44

Clause 44, page 21, line 29, at end insert—

- ‘(4A) A claimant shall not be invited to accept a claimant commitment by an employment officer unless the employment officer has taken steps to ensure, and is satisfied, that the claimant will have the necessary type and level of personalised support, and access to localised support, to enable them to comply with the claimant commitment and to obtain employment, or to undertake work or work related activity.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 135

Clause 44, page 23, line 30, at end add ‘, who in the case of disabled claimants must have access to sufficient skills and expertise to ensure that any requirements are appropriate to the claimant’s circumstances.’.

Clause agreed to.

Chris Grayling

Agreed to 93

Clause 45, page 23, line 33, after ‘(1)(a)’ insert ‘and (1A)(a)’

Clause agreed to.

Kate Green

Withdrawn 85

Clause 46, page 23, line 40, at end insert—

- ‘(1A) (a) Decision makers employed in Jobcentres and in private jobseeker contractors shall take into account all relevant facts and circumstances when considering the imposition of any sanction or penalty on a claimant;
- (b) The claimant shall provide the decision maker with a statement of income, expenditure and debts;
- (c) The decision maker may signpost the claimant who has debts to a relevant adviser;

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

- (d) A claimant who is mentally or physically ill may provide the decision taker with written medical evidence from the relevant doctor, consultant or hospital;
- (e) A claimant who is pregnant may provide evidence of a pregnancy test.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 142

Clause 46, page 23, line 40, at end insert—

- ‘(1A) With respect to claimants who have disabilities, the Secretary of State shall not impose any sanctions without first consulting a Disability Employment Adviser.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 147

Clause 46, page 24, line 19, leave out ‘three years’ and insert ‘one year’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Withdrawn 136

Clause 46, page 24, line 34, at end add—

- ‘(8) Regulations will provide for an appeal mechanism.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 143

Clause 46, page 24, line 38, at end insert—

- ‘(1A) With respect to claimants who have disabilities, the Secretary of State shall not impose any sanctions without first consulting a Disability Employment Adviser.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 148

Clause 46, page 25, line 22, leave out ‘26’ and insert ‘13’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 137

Clause 46, page 26, line 12, at end insert—

- ‘(12) Regulations will provide for an appeal mechanism.’.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Not called 152

Clause 46, page 27, leave out line 25.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Not called 138

Clause 46, page 27, line 7, at end insert—

‘(9) Regulations will provide for an appeal mechanism.’.

Clause agreed to.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Not called 153

Clause 47, page 27, line 45, at end insert—

‘(2) In section 37 of the Jobseekers Act 1995 (Parliamentary control), in subsection (1) at end insert—

“(d) regulations made under sections 19, 19A, 19C, 6J, or 6K.”.’.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 48 agreed to.

Schedule 7 agreed to.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Not called 144

Clause 49, page 32, line 21, at end insert—

‘(1A) With respect to claimants who have disabilities, the Secretary of State shall not impose any sanctions without first consulting a Disability Employment Adviser.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
Stephen Timms
Ms Karen Buck
Margaret Curran

Not called 149

Clause 49, page 33, line 2, leave out ‘three years’ and insert ‘one year’.

Welfare Reform Bill, *continued*

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 139

Clause 49, page 33, line 15, at end insert—
 ‘(8) Regulations will provide for an appeal mechanism.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 145

Clause 49, page 33, line 19, at end insert—
 ‘(1A) With respect to claimants who have disabilities, the Secretary of State shall not impose any sanctions without first consulting a Disability Employment Adviser.’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 150

Clause 49, page 33, line 34, leave out ‘26’ and insert ‘13’.

Mr Liam Byrne
 Stephen Timms
 Ms Karen Buck
 Margaret Curran

Not called 140

Clause 49, page 34, line 12, at end insert—
 ‘(12) Regulations will provide for an appeal mechanism.’.

Kate Green

Withdrawn 86

Clause 49, page 35, line 16, at end insert—

‘6M Lone Parents

Nothing within these regulations shall supersede the provision set out in the Jobseeker’s Allowance (Lone Parents) (Availability for Work) Regulations 2010 or the Social Security (Lone Parents and Miscellaneous Amendments”) Regulations 2008, Clause 11.’.

Clause agreed to.

[Adjourned until Tuesday 3 May at 10.30 am