

Social Security (Up-rating of Benefits) Bill

REVISED
MARSHALLED
LIST OF AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
ON REPORT

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Amendment
No.

Clause 1

BARONESS ALTMANN
BARONESS JANKE
BARONESS WHEATCROFT
LORD HAIN

1 Page 1, line 4, leave out “(1)” and insert “(1)(za) to (c)”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to limit the application of the Bill so that it does not apply to the uprating of the pension credit standard minimum guarantee, thereby ensuring the poorest pensioners are still protected against rising earnings. It is linked with the new Clause in the name of Baroness Altmann.

LORD DAVIES OF BRIXTON
LORD SIKKA

2 Page 1, line 6, leave out from “if” to end of line 8 and insert “the Secretary of State had determined that the general level of earnings obtaining in Great Britain had increased by 8.1%.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would remove the provision substituting “prices” for “earnings” and retain the earnings link for the 2022-23 year by stipulating the Government will assume earnings have risen by 8.1% for the purposes of uprating. This reflects the annual increase in the index of average weekly earnings following the practice adopted by the Secretary of State in recent years.

BARONESS ALTMANN
 BARONESS JANKE
 BARONESS WHEATCROFT
 LORD HAIN

- 3 Page 1, line 7, leave out from the first “of” to end of line 8 and insert “earnings obtaining in Great Britain, as adjusted to take account of the exceptional impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the level of earnings.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to maintain the link between pension uprating and earnings but requires the Secretary of State to make adjustments that are considered appropriate for distortions in the traditional ONS Average Weekly Earnings figures, which were caused by the exceptional pandemic effects and Government measures on the labour market.

- 4 Page 1, line 11, leave out paragraphs (a) to (e) and insert “in subsection (2), at the end there were inserted “in the light of reasonable adjustments to take account of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic based on the Office for National Statistics reported earnings figure.””

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is consequential to the amendment at page 1, line 7.

BARONESS SHERLOCK
 BARONESS JANKE
 BARONESS ALTMANN
 BARONESS BOYCOTT

- 5 Page 2, line 11, at end insert –
- “(3) Within six months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must publish a review of the impact of this Act on pensioner poverty.
 - (4) The review must examine, but is not limited to, the impact of this Act on women.
 - (5) This review must be laid before both Houses of Parliament, and a Minister of the Crown must arrange to make a statement.”

LORD SIKKA
 BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE
 LORD DAVIES OF BRIXTON

- 6 Leave out Clause 1

After Clause 1

BARONESS ALTMANN
 BARONESS JANKE
 BARONESS WHEATCROFT
 LORD HAIN

7★ Insert the following new Clause—

“Up-rating of the standard minimum guarantee following review in tax year 2021-22

- (1) This section modifies section 150A of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 (annual up-rating of basic pension etc and standard minimum guarantee) in relation to the benefit mentioned in subsection (1)(d) of that section.
- (2) In relation to the tax year ending with 5 April 2022, the amounts referred to in subsection (1)(d) of section 150A of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 are to be reviewed as if that subsection required a review by reference to the general level of earnings, as adjusted to take account of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the level of earnings, including the financial measures implemented by the Government in response to it.
- (3) In relation to the tax year ending with 5 April 2022, the other provisions of section 150A of that Act are to have effect as if, in subsection (2), at the end there were inserted “in the light of reasonable adjustments to take account of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic based on the Office for National Statistics reported earnings figure”.

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment is intended to limit the application of the Bill so that it does not apply to the uprating of the pension credit standard minimum guarantee, thereby ensuring the poorest pensioners are still protected against rising earnings.

Clause 2

LORD SIKKA
 BARONESS BENNETT OF MANOR CASTLE
 LORD DAVIES OF BRIXTON

8 Page 2, line 14, leave out subsection (2) and insert—

- “(2) Section 1 of this Act comes into force on such day as the Secretary of State may appoint by regulations.
- (2A) Regulations under subsection (2) may not be made until the Secretary of State has laid a report before Parliament setting out how the National Insurance Fund would be affected if such regulations—
 - (a) were made, and
 - (b) were not made.
- (2B) Section 2 of this Act comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.”

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1 November 2021
