

Pension Schemes Bill

2014 to 2015: other provisions in the Bill

Other measures to private pensions legislation include two proposed clauses concerning judicial pensions, a minor and technical measure safeguarding the funding of the Remploy, and a proposed amendment to extend provisions of a previous pensions schemes act (relating to survivors' benefits in the case of Same Sex Marriage and gender change cases) to Scotland.

The Bill has two proposed New Clauses from the Ministry of Justice concerning judicial pensions. One corrects paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 2A to the Judicial Pensions and Retirement Act 1993, which is about the funding of pensions shared on divorce (etc). The amendment ensures that the Act works for cases where pension sharing is activated after a person has left judicial office. The second allows a pension scheme to be established for fee-paid judges, as required by case law. It is aimed at old and transitional cases. Pensions for fee-paid judges will in the future be governed by a new scheme under the recent public service pensions legislation.

The Bill also contains a minor and technical measure on the Remploy pension scheme. Remploy is a non-departmental public body that provides employment services for disabled people and those with barriers to work. The legislation will allow DWP to fund the Remploy pension scheme directly if this is required in the future.

This Bill also contains a proposed amendment which extends certain provisions in the Pension Schemes Act 1993 (regulations about relevant gender change cases), that were inserted by the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013, to Scotland to allow regulations made under section 38A of the Pension Schemes Act to extend to Scotland.