

*These notes refer to the Welfare Reform Act 2009 (c.24)  
which received Royal Assent on 12 November 2009*

# WELFARE REFORM ACT 2009

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### SCHEDULES

#### *Schedule 1: Amendments connected to section 4*

#### **Part 1**

#### **18B: Work-related activity: section 1A(4) claimants**

285. This is a regulation-making power which allows for regulations to require those on jobseeker's allowance ('JSA') who do not have to meet the jobseeking conditions to undertake work-related activity as a condition of continuing to receive their full amount of benefit. This does not apply if the claimant is a lone parent with a child aged under three (*subsection 18B(1)(b) refers*). Work-related activity will be detailed in an action plan, and will be reasonable and have due consideration to a person's circumstances. The requirement to undertake such activity can be suspended in specific circumstances, which will also be prescribed in regulations.
286. *Subsection (4)* provides that regulations made under this section must provide that lone parents are entitled to restrict the hours for which they will be required to undertake work-related activity. For example they could restrict such activities to their child's hours of schooling or formal childcare.
287. *Subsection (5)* provides that in circumstances prescribed in regulations, only a specific activity specified in the direction is to be regarded as a work-related activity. The provision also allows for specified activities to be deemed not to be work-related activity.
288. *Subsection (6)* provides that a person cannot be required to undertake medical or surgical treatment to meet their work-related activity requirement.
289. Claimants who fail to comply may incur a sanction.
290. *Paragraph 5 of Schedule 1* inserts new *sections 18C* and *18D* before section 19 of the Jobseekers Act 1995.