
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No. 1661

**The Employment Equality (Sexual
Orientation) Regulations 2003**

PART IV

GENERAL EXCEPTIONS FROM PARTS II AND III

Exception for national security

24. Nothing in Part II or III shall render unlawful an act done for the purpose of safeguarding national security, if the doing of the act was justified by that purpose.

Exception for benefits dependent on marital status

25. Nothing in Part II or III shall render unlawful anything which prevents or restricts access to a benefit by reference to marital status.

Exceptions for positive action

26.—(1) Nothing in Part II or III shall render unlawful any act done in or in connection with—

- (a) affording persons of a particular sexual orientation access to facilities for training which would help fit them for particular work; or
- (b) encouraging persons of a particular sexual orientation to take advantage of opportunities for doing particular work,

where it reasonably appears to the person doing the act that it prevents or compensates for disadvantages linked to sexual orientation suffered by persons of that sexual orientation doing that work or likely to take up that work.

(2) Nothing in Part II or III shall render unlawful any act done by a trade organisation within the meaning of regulation 15 in or in connection with—

- (a) affording only members of the organisation who are of a particular sexual orientation access to facilities for training which would help fit them for holding a post of any kind in the organisation; or
- (b) encouraging only members of the organisation who are of a particular sexual orientation to take advantage of opportunities for holding such posts in the organisation,

where it reasonably appears to the organisation that the act prevents or compensates for disadvantages linked to sexual orientation suffered by those of that sexual orientation holding such posts or likely to hold such posts.

(3) Nothing in Part II or III shall render unlawful any act done by a trade organisation within the meaning of regulation 15 in or in connection with encouraging only persons of a particular sexual orientation to become members of the organisation where it reasonably appears to the organisation that the act prevents or compensates for disadvantages linked to sexual orientation suffered by persons of that sexual orientation who are, or are eligible to become, members.