

*These notes refer to the Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland)  
2010 (c.13) which received Royal Assent on 13 August 2010*

# Welfare Reform Act (Northern Ireland) 2010

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

#### **Part 1: Social security**

##### *Section 3: Lone parents*

Subsection 1 amends section 123 of the [Social Security Contributions and Benefits \(Northern Ireland\) Act 1992 \(c.7\)](#) to ensure that lone parents with a child under seven are a prescribed category of person entitled to income support.

Subsection 2 amends section 2A of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 to ensure that lone parents on income support with a child under one will not be required to take part in a work-focused interview.

Subsections 3 to 5 amend sections 12, 13 and 24 of the [Welfare Reform Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2007 \(c.2\)](#), to ensure that lone parents on employment and support allowance with a child under one will not be required to take part in a work-focused interview and with a child under three will not be required to undertake work-related activity. A regulation-making power provides that lone parents on employment and support allowance will be entitled to restrict the times when they are required to undertake work-related activity.