



Administration of Justice Act 1970

1970 CHAPTER 31

PART II

ENFORCEMENT OF DEBT

Provisions restricting sanction of imprisonment

11 Restriction on power of committal under Debtors Act 1869 (c. 62).

The jurisdiction given by section 5 of the Debtors Act 1869 to commit to prison a person who makes default in payment of a debt, or instalment of a debt, due from him in pursuance of an order or judgment shall be exercisable only—

- (a) by the High Court in respect of a High Court maintenance order; ^{F1}...
- (b) by [^{F2}the county court][^{F3}in respect of a judgment]or order which is enforceable by a court in England and Wales and is for the payment of any of the taxes, contributions [^{F4}premiums] or liabilities specified in Schedule 4 to this Act.^[F5]; and
- (c) by the family court in respect of a High Court or family court maintenance order.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Word in s. 11(a) omitted (22.4.2014) by virtue of [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 10 para. 18\(1\)\(a\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(d) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F2** Words in s. 11(b) substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 9 para. 52](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(c) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F3** Words in s. 11(b) substituted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), [Sch. 10 para. 18\(1\)\(b\)](#); [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(d) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)
- F4** Word inserted by [Social Security Act 1973 \(c. 38, SIF 113: 1\)](#), [Sch. 27 para. 85](#)

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Administration of Justice Act 1970, Cross Heading: Provisions restricting sanction of imprisonment. (See end of Document for details)

F5 S. 11(c) and word inserted (22.4.2014) by [Crime and Courts Act 2013 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 61(3), **Sch. 10 para. 18(1)(c)**; [S.I. 2014/954](#), art. 2(d) (with art. 3) (with transitional provisions and savings in [S.I. 2014/956](#), arts. 3-11)

12 Restriction on magistrates’ power of committal for civil debt.

F6

Textual Amendments

F6 S. 12 repealed by [Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 \(c. 43, SIF 82\)](#), s. 154, **Sch. 9**

13— **F7**
26.

Textual Amendments

F7 Ss. 13–26, 27(1)(2), 28(2)–(5), 29(1)–(4), repealed by [Attachment of Earnings Act 1971 \(c. 32, SIF 45\)](#), s. 29(2), **Sch. 6**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Administration of Justice Act 1970,
Cross Heading: Provisions restricting sanction of imprisonment.