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# Attachment of Earnings Act 1971

## **CHAPTER 32**

# ATTACHMENT OF EARNINGS ACT 1971

### Cases in which attachment is available

- 1 Courts with power to attach earnings.
- 1A Orders to which this Act applies
- 2 Principal definitions.
- 3 Application for order and conditions of court's power to make it.

# Administration orders in the county court

- 4 Extension of power to make administration order.
- 5 Attachment of earnings to secure payments under administration order.

## Consequences of attachment order

- 6 Effect and contents of order.
- 7 Compliance with order by employer.
- 8 Interrelation with alternative remedies open to creditor.

# Subsequent proceedings

- 9 Variation, lapse and discharge of orders.
- 10 Normal deduction rate to be reduced in certain cases.
- 11 Attachment order in respect of maintenance payments to cease to have effect on the occurrence of certain events.
- 12 Termination of employer's liability to make deductions.

## Administrative provisions

- 13 Application of sums received by collecting officer.
- 14 Power of court to obtain statements of earnings etc.

#### Status: Point in time view as at 07/11/2012.

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- 15 Obligation of debtor and his employers to notify changes of employment and earnings.
- 16 Power of court to determine whether particular payments are earnings.
- 17 Consolidated attachment orders.

# Special provisions with respect to magistrates' courts

- 18 Certain action not to be taken by collecting officer except on request.
- 19 Procedure on applications.
- 20 Jurisdiction in respect of persons residing outside England and Wales.
- 21 Costs on application under s. 16.

# Miscellaneous provisions

- 22 Persons employed under the Crown.
- 23 Enforcement provisions.
- 24 Meaning of "earnings".
- 25 General interpretation.

#### General

- 26 Transitional provision.
- 27 Consequential amendment of enactments.
- 28 .....
- 29 Citation, repeal, extent and commencement.

# **SCHEDULES**

# SCHEDULE 1 — Maintenance orders to which this Act applies

- 1 An order for alimony, maintenance or other payments made, or...
- 2 An order for payments to or in respect of a...
- 3 An order for periodical or other payments made, or having...
- 4 An order for maintenance or other payments to or in...
- 5 An order for periodical or other payments made or having...
- 6 Maintenance orders to which this Act applies
- 7 An order under paragraph 23 of Schedule 2 to the...
- 8 Maintenance orders to which this Act applies
- 9 An order to which section 16 of the Maintenance Orders...
- 10 A maintenance order within the meaning of the Maintenance Orders...
- 11 A maintenance order within the meaning of Part I of...
- 12 An order under section 34(1)(b) of the Children...
- 13 A maintenance order within the meaning of Part I of...
- 14 A maintenance judgment within the meaning of Council Regulation (...
- 14A (1) A decision, court settlement or authentic instrument which falls...
- 14B A decision or maintenance arrangement which is registered in a...
  - 15 An order made under Schedule 5 to the Civil Partnership...
  - 16 An order made under Schedule 6 to the 2004 Act...

SCHEDULE 2 — Taxes, social security contributions etc. relevant for purposes of section 3(6)

]		Income tax	or any o	ther tax	or liab	oility re	ecoverab	le und	er
^	)								

4. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

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3	Contributions equivalent premiums under Part III of the Pension Schemes								
3A	Class 1, 2 and 4 contributions under Part I of								
4	·····								
SCHEDULE 3 — Deductions by employer under attachment of earnings order Part I — SCHEME OF DEDUCTIONS									
Preliminary definitions									
1	The following three paragraphs have effect for defining and explaining,								
2	2 "Pay-day", in relation to earnings paid to a debtor, means								
3	"Attachable earnings", in relation to a pay-day, are the earnings								
4	(1) On any pay-day— (a) "the normal deduction"								
Employer's deduction (judgment debts and administration orders)									
5	In the case of an attachment of earnings order made								
Employer's deduction (other cases)									
6	(1) The following provision shall have effect in the case								
6A	$\mathcal{C}$								
7	Part II — PRIORITY AS BETWEEN ORDERS Where the employer is required to comply with two or								
8	Where the employer is required to comply with two or								
O	where the employer is required to comply with two of								
SCHEDULE —									
SCHEDULE 5 — Section 20 of Maintenance Orders Act 1958 as having effect in consequence of this Act									
20	Special provisions as to magistrates' courts.								

SCHEDULE 6 — Enactments Repealed

## **Status:**

Point in time view as at 07/11/2012.

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