

*These notes refer to the Welfare Reform Act 2012
(c.5) which received Royal Assent on 8 March 2012*

WELFARE REFORM ACT 2012

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 5: Social security: General

Section 115: Period for withdrawal of agreement to pay penalty

587. *Section 115* amends sections 115A(5) and 115B(6) of SSAA 1992 to reduce the cooling-off period for agreeing to pay a penalty to avoid prosecution, from 28 days to 14 days. The cooling-off period is the time during which a claimant or, in section 115B, an employer, may withdraw from his or her agreement to pay the financial penalty. A withdrawal means that the penalty need not be paid, but also that the Secretary of State's agreement not to prosecute will no longer apply.