

Women's State Pension Age (Ombudsman Report and Compensation Scheme) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

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[AS INTRODUCED]

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TO

Require the Secretary of State to publish measures to address the findings of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman in its report entitled “Women’s State Pension age: our findings on injustice and associated issues”; to require the Secretary of State to publish proposals for a compensation scheme for women born between 6 April 1950 and 5 April 1960 inclusive who have been affected by increases in the state pension age; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the King’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Publication of measures to address the findings of the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman

- (1) Within three months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament proposals to address the findings of the Parliamentary Health Service Ombudsman in its report entitled “Women’s State Pension age: our findings on injustice and associated issues”, which was laid before Parliament on 21 March 2024. 5
- (2) The proposals in subsection (1) must include—
 - (a) a mechanism for providing appropriate remedy for those who have suffered injustice, including an apology, explanation and acknowledgement of responsibility; 10
 - (b) measures to amend how the Department communicates changes to—
 - (i) pensionable age;
 - (ii) the number of qualifying years required for a full State Pension;
 - (iii) how the State Pension system is administered; and 15
 - (c) measures to reduce the likelihood of maladministration by the Department.

2 Requirement to publish proposals for a compensation scheme

- (1) Within three months of the passing of this Act, the Secretary of State must lay before Parliament proposals for a compensation scheme for women who 20

have been affected by the increase in state pension age as provided for in the State Pension Act 1995 and the Pensions Act 2011.

- (2) A paper laid under subsection (1) must include proposals relating to—
 - (a) eligibility for the compensation scheme;
 - (b) the amounts of compensation to be paid under the scheme; 5
 - (c) the administration of the compensation scheme; and
 - (d) the timeframe for compensation to be paid under the scheme.
- (3) In making proposals for a compensation scheme under this section, the Secretary of State must have regard to the severity of injustice scale published by the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman. 10

3 Territorial extent, commencement and short title

- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act may be cited as the Women's State Pension Age (Ombudsman Report and Compensation Scheme) Act 2025. 15

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*Presented by Stephen Flynn
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