

*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

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **BACKGROUND AND POLICY OBJECTIVES**

#### **Part 1 - Social security**

##### **Sanctions**

22. Provision is made to apply a one or two week benefit sanction to jobseeker's allowance claimants who, without good cause, fail to attend mandatory appointments in connection with their claim. A sanction will also be introduced for jobseeker's allowance customers who commit acts of violence or threatening behaviour against staff in Jobs and Benefits Offices and Social Security Offices or contracted staff in the course of a claim for jobseeker's allowance. The sanction will only apply following a conviction or caution.