



# Social Security Act 1973

## 1973 CHAPTER 38

### PART I

#### THE BASIC SCHEME

#### CHAPTER I:

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

*Alteration of rates, etc., by order*

#### **8 Additional power to alter figures in ss. 2 to 5.**

- (1) Without prejudice to section 7 of this Act, the Secretary of State may at any time, if he thinks it expedient to do so with a view to adjusting the level at which the National Insurance Fund stands for the time being and having regard to the sums which may be expected to be paid from the Fund in any future period, make an order amending this Chapter by altering any one or more of the following figures—
  - (a) the percentage rates for primary and secondary Class 1 contributions specified in section 2(6);
  - (b) the figure specified in section 3(1) as the weekly rate of Class 2 contributions;
  - (c) the figure specified in section 4(1) as the amount of a Class 3 contribution;
  - (d) the percentage rate for Class 4 contributions specified in section 5(2).
- (2) An order under subsection (1) above shall, if it contains an amendment altering the percentage rate for Class 4 contributions specified in section 5(2), make the same alteration of the percentage rate specified in section 5(9).
- (3) An order under subsection (1) above may—
  - (a) if it contains an amendment altering the figure specified in section 3(1) as the weekly rate of Class 2 contributions and the Secretary of State thinks it expedient in consequence of that amendment, amend section 3(5) by

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

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altering the figure there specified as the amount of earnings below which regulations under that subsection may except an earner from liability for Class 2 contributions;

- (b) if the Secretary of State thinks it expedient in consequence—
- (i) of any amendments of this Chapter made by the order, or
  - (ii) of any regulations under Chapter III which he has made or proposes to make with a view to adjusting the percentage rate of Class 1 contributions in the case of particular categories or descriptions of earners,

amend section 45(3) of this Act by altering any one or more of the percentages there specified in relation to the appropriate national health service allocation and the appropriate allocation to the Redundancy Fund.

- (4) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, but subject to subsection (6) below, the Secretary of State may at any time, if he thinks it expedient to do so with a view to adjusting the level at which the Redundancy Fund stands for the time being and having regard to the sums which may be expected to be paid from that Fund in any future period, make an order amending section 2(6) of this Act by altering the percentage rate for secondary Class 1 contributions specified in that subsection.
- (5) Where the Secretary of State determines to make an order under subsection (4) above, the order shall also provide for the amendment of section 45(3) of this Act by increasing or reducing the percentage there specified in relation to the appropriate allocation to the Redundancy Fund by the same amount as that by which the order increases or reduces the percentage rate for secondary Class 1 contributions.
- (6) No order shall be made under this section so as to increase the percentage rate for primary or secondary Class 1 contributions, or for Class 4 contributions, to a percentage more than 0.25 per cent, higher than that which is specified in section 2(6) or, as the case may be, section 5(2) of this Act as originally passed.
- (7) No order shall be made under this section unless a draft of the order has been laid before, and approved by, a resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (8) Where the Secretary of State lays before Parliament a draft of an order under this section, he shall lay with it a copy of a report by the Government Actuary on the effect which, in the Actuary's opinion, the making of such an order may be expected to have on the National Insurance Fund:

Provided that no such report need be laid if the order is made by virtue only of subsections (4) and (5) above.

- (9) An order under this section shall be made so as to be in force from the beginning of the year following that in which it received Parliamentary approval, and to have effect for that year and any subsequent year (subject to the effect of any subsequent order under this section or under section 7 above); and for this purpose the order is to be taken as receiving Parliamentary approval on the date on which the draft of it is approved by the second House to approve it.