

Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 52

PART I

TRADE UNIONS

CHAPTER II

STATUS AND PROPERTY OF TRADE UNIONS

Property of trade union

15 Prohibition on use of funds to indemnify unlawful conduct.

- (1) It is unlawful for property of a trade union to be applied in or towards—
 - (a) the payment for an individual of a penalty which has been or may be imposed on him for an offence or for contempt of court,
 - (b) the securing of any such payment, or
 - (c) the provision of anything for indemnifying an individual in respect of such a penalty.
- (2) Where any property of a trade union is so applied for the benefit of an individual on whom a penalty has been or may be imposed, then—
 - (a) in the case of a payment, an amount equal to the payment is recoverable by the union from him, and
 - (b) in any other case, he is liable to account to the union for the value of the property applied.
- (3) If a trade union fails to bring or continue proceedings which it is entitled by bring by virtue of subsection (2), a member of the union who claims that the failure is

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- unreasonable may apply to the court on that ground for an order authorising him to bring or continue the proceedings on the union's behalf and at the union's expense.
- (4) In this section "penalty", in relation to an offence, includes an order to pay compensation and an order for the forfeiture of any property; and references to the imposition of a penalty for an offence shall be construed accordingly.
- (5) The Secretary of State may by order designate offences in relation to which the provisions of this section do not apply.
 - Any such order shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.
- (6) This section does not affect—
 - (a) any other enactment, any rule of law or any provision of the rules of a trade union which makes it unlawful for the property of a trade union to be applied in a particular way; or
 - (b) any other remedy available to a trade union, the trustees of its property or any of its members in respect of an unlawful application of the union's property.
- (7) In this section "member", in relation to a trade union consisting wholly or partly of, or of representatives of, constituent or affiliated organisations, includes a member of any of the constituent or affiliated organisations.

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