

[AS AMENDED IN COMMITTEE]

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# B I L L

TO

Amend the Child Benefit (Rates) Regulations 2006 to make provision to vary the rate of child benefit over the course of childhood to enable eligible parents to receive a higher rate during a child's early years and a correspondingly reduced rate when that child is older.

**B**E 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 Child Benefit (Rates) Regulations 2006 amendment

In regulation 2 of the Child Benefit (Rates) Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/965), after paragraph (1) insert—

“(1A) The person to whom child benefit is payable may choose to vary the rate of child benefit paid, such that the weekly amount may decrease as the child or qualifying young person gets older, but the total amount received over the young person's childhood would be the same as if they had received either of the rates under paragraph (1).”

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(1B) Paragraph (1A) is without prejudice to section 145(4) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (no rate prescribed in place of a rate previously in force to be lower than the rate it replaces).”

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## 2 Regulations

(1) The Secretary of State may by regulations prescribe the rates from which people to whom child benefit is payable may choose to be paid, in accordance with section 1, and the arrangements for such choices being made and implemented.

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(2) Regulations under subsection (1) are to be made by statutory instrument.

(3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.

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## 3 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 Front-loaded Child Benefit Act 2022.



# Front-loaded Child Benefit Bill [HL]

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*Lord Farmer*

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