This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Act 1984. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the Law Reform Commission Act 1975 (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.

All Acts up to and including Local Government Act 2019 (1/2019), enacted 25 January 2019, and all statutory instruments up to and including Brown Crab (Conservation Of Stocks) Regulations 2019 (S.I. No. 26 of 2019), made 1 February 2019, were considered in the preparation of this Revised Act.

Disclaimer: While every care has been taken in the preparation of this Revised Act, the Law Reform Commission can assume no responsibility for and give no guarantees, undertakings or warranties concerning the accuracy, completeness or up to date nature of the information provided and does not accept any liability whatsoever arising from any errors or omissions. Please notify any errors, omissions and comments by email to revisedacts@lawreform.ie.
Introduction

This Revised Act presents the text of the Act as it has been amended since enactment, and preserves the format in which it was passed.

Related Legislation

Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Acts 1984 to 2012: this Act is one of a group of Acts included in this collective citation, to be construed together as one (Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act 2012 (32/2012), s. 1(4)). The Acts in this group are:

- Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Act 1984 (21/1984)
- Social Welfare Act 1990 (5/1990), s. 28
- Protection of Employees (Part-Time Work) Act 2001 (45/2001), in so far as it relates to the collectively cited Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Acts 1984 and 1990
- Industrial Relations (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004 (4/2004), s. 17 and 17(3)
- Industrial Relations (Amendment) Act 2012 (32/2012), s. 17

Redundancy Payments Acts 1967 to 2014: this Act is one of a group of Acts included in this collective citation, to be construed together as one (Local Government Reform Act 2014 (1/2014), s. 1(19)). The Acts in this group are:

- Redundancy Payments Act 1967 (21/1967)
- Redundancy Payments Act 1971 (20/1971)
- Redundancy Payments Act 1979 (7/1979)
- Protection of Employees (Employer’s Insolvency) Act 1984 (21/1984), s. 12
- Social Welfare Act 1991 (7/1991), s. 39 other than subs. (2)
- Protection of Employees (Part-Time Work) Act 2001 (45/2001), in so far as it relates to the Redundancy Payments Acts 1967 to 1990


Social Welfare Act 2012 (43/2012), Part 3

Local Government Reform Act 2014 (1/2014), s. 1(19), the amendment to the Redundancy Payments Act 1967 provided for in s. 5(6) and sch. 2 part 6 (Note: the reference to s. 5(6) appears to refer to s. 5(8))

Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts 1973 to 2005: this Act is one of a group of Acts included in this collective citation to be construed together as one (Civil Service Regulation (Amendment) Act 2005, s. 1(4)). The Acts in the group are:


Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Act 1984 (21/1984), s. 13 (collective citation only)


Civil Service Regulation (Amendment) Act 2005 (18/2005), Part 7

Annotations

This Revised Act is not annotated and only shows textual amendments. An annotated version of this revision is also available which shows textual and non-textual amendments and their sources. It also shows editorial notes including statutory instruments made pursuant to the Act and previous affecting provisions.

Material not updated in this revision

Where other legislation is amended by this Act, those amendments may have been superseded by other amendments in other legislation, or the amended legislation may have been repealed or revoked. This information is not represented in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the amended legislation if one is available. A list of legislative changes to any Act, and to statutory instruments from 1977, may be found linked from the page of the Act or statutory instrument at www.irishstatutebook.ie
Number 21 of 1984

PROTECTION OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYERS’ INSOLVENCY) ACT 1984

REVISED

Updated to 1 February 2019

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section
1. Interpretation.
2. Redundancy and Employers’ Insolvency Fund.
4. Insolvency for the purposes of Act.
5. Appointment in certain circumstances of persons to perform functions assigned by Act to relevant officers.
6. Employees’ rights on insolvency of employer.
7. Payment of unpaid contributions to occupational pension scheme.
8. Minister may require certain information and documents.
9. Complaints to Tribunal.
9A. Appeal to Labour Court from declaration of adjudication officer under section 9.
10. Transfer to Minister of certain rights and remedies.
15. Offences.
16. Regulations.
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18. Short title and collective citations.

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Number 21 of 1984

PROTECTION OF EMPLOYEES (EMPLOYERS’ INSOLVENCY) ACT 1984
REVISED
Updated to 1 February 2019

AN ACT TO CONFER, ON THE INSOLVENCY OF EMPLOYERS, CERTAIN RIGHTS ON EMPLOYEES, TO AMEND CERTAIN ENACTMENTS RELATING TO THE RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER MATTERS (INCLUDING OFFENCES) CONNECTED WITH THE MATTERS AFORESAID. [30th November, 1984]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

Interpretation.

1.—(1) In this Act—

“the Act of 1967” means the Redundancy Payments Act, 1967;

[‘Act of 2015’ means the Workplace Relations Act 2015;]

[‘the Act of 1969’ means the Industrial Relations Act 1969;]


“the Act of 1974” means the Anti-Discrimination (Pay) Act, 1974;

“the Act of 1977” means the Unfair Dismissals Act, 1977;


[‘the Act of 1990’ means the Industrial Relations Act 1990;

‘the Act of 1991’ means the Payment of Wages Act 1991;


‘the Act of 1997’ means the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997;

‘the Act of 1998’ means the Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998;

‘the Act of 2001’ means the Protection of Employees (Part-Time Work) Act 2001;

‘the Act of 2002’ means the Competition Act 2002;

‘the Act of 2003’ means the Protection of Employees (Fixed-Time Work) Act 2003;

‘the Act of 2004’ means the Industrial Relations (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2004;]

[‘the Act of 2006’ means the Employment Permits Act 2006;]
[‘Act of 2011’ means the Criminal Justice Act 2011.;]

“company” means, except when the context otherwise requires, a company within the meaning of section 2 of the Companies Act, 1963, or any other body corporate whether incorporated within or outside the State;


“employee” means a person who has entered into or works under (or, in the case of a contract which has been terminated, worked under) a contract with an employer, whether the contract is for manual labour, clerical work or otherwise, is express or implied, oral or in writing, and whether it is a contract of service or apprenticeship or otherwise, and “employer” and any reference to employment shall be construed accordingly;

“holiday pay” means—

(a) pay in respect of a holiday actually taken; or

(b) any holiday pay which had accrued at the date of the termination of the employee’s employment and which, had his employment with the employer continued until he became entitled to a holiday, would under the employee’s contract of employment in the ordinary course have become payable to him on becoming so entitled;

[‘Member State’ means a Member State of the European Union.]

“the Minister” means the Minister for Labour;

“occupational pension scheme” means any scheme or arrangement which, forming part of a contract of employment, provides or is capable of providing, in relation to employees in any description of employment, benefits (in the form of pensions or otherwise) payable to or in respect of any such employees on the termination of their employment or on their death or retirement;

“prescribed” means prescribed by regulations under this Act;

“relevant officer” means an executor, an administrator, the official assignee or a trustee in bankruptcy, a liquidator, a receiver or manager, [...] a trustee under an arrangement between an employer and his creditors or under a trust deed for his creditors executed by an employer[, or, where the employer is an undertaking which is insolvent under the laws, regulations and administrative procedures of another Member State in accordance with Article 2(1) of Council Directive 80/987/EEC of 20 October 1980 as amended by Article 1(2) of Directive 2002/74/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 and the employees concerned are employed or habitually employed in the State, the person appointed by the appropriate competent authority to perform the functions of a relevant officer.]


“the Tribunal” means the Employment Appeals Tribunal.

(2) Any reference in this Act to the assets of an occupational pensions scheme is a reference to the funds or other property out of which the benefits provided by the scheme are payable from time to time, including the proceeds of any policy of insurance taken out, or contract entered into, for the purposes of the scheme.
(3) For the purposes of this Act, an employer shall be taken to be or, as may be appropriate, to have become insolvent if, but only if,

(a) he has been adjudicated bankrupt or has filed a petition for or has executed a deed of arrangement (within the meaning of section 4 of the Deeds of Arrangement Act, 1887); or

(b) he has died and his estate, being insolvent, is being administered in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of the First Schedule to the Succession Act, 1965; or

(c) where the employer is a company, a winding up order is made or a resolution for voluntary winding up is passed with respect to it, or a receiver or manager of its undertaking is duly appointed, or possession is taken, by or on behalf of the holders of any debentures secured by any floating charge, of any property of the company comprised in or subject to the charge; or

(d) he is an employer of a class or description specified in regulations under section 4 (2) of this Act which are for the time being in force and the circumstances specified in the regulations as regards employers of such class or description obtain in relation to him; or

(e) the employer is an undertaking which is insolvent under the laws, regulations and administrative procedures of another Member State in accordance with Article 2(1) of Council Directive 80/987/EEC of 20 October 1980 as amended by Article 1(2) of Directive 2002/74/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 and the employees concerned are employed or habitually employed in the State.

Redundancy and Employers’ Insolvency Fund.

2.—[...]

Application of Act.

3.—Subject to section 11 of this Act, this Act applies to employees employed in employment which is insurable for all benefits under the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act 1993 or would be so insurable but for the fact that—

(a) the employment concerned is an excepted employment by virtue of paragraph 2, 4 or 5 of Part II of the First Schedule to the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act 1993, or

(b) the employees concerned have attained the age of 66 years.

Insolvency for the purposes of Act.

4.—(1) An employer who is for the purposes of this Act insolvent shall for such purposes be regarded as having become insolvent on—

(a) where the employer has been adjudicated bankrupt, the date of such adjudication,

(b) where the employer petitioned for arrangement, the date on which the petition is filed,

(c) where the employer executed a deed referred to in section 1(3) (a) of this Act, the date of such execution,

(d) where the employer has died, the date of his death,

(e) where the employer is a company within the meaning of section 2 of the Companies Act, 1963—

(i) in case either a receiver is appointed on behalf of the holder of any debenture secured by a floating charge, or possession is taken by or on behalf of such a debenture holder of any property of the company
comprised in or subject to the charge, the date of the appointment of the
receiver or possession being taken as aforesaid, as may be appropriate,
or
(ii) in any other case the date which, in relation to the company, is the relevant
date within the meaning of section 285 of the Companies Act, 1963, […]

(f) where the employer is an employer of a class or description specified in regu-
lations under subsection (3) of this section which are for the time being in
force, the day on which under the regulations such an employer is for such
purposes to be regarded as [having become insolvent, and]

(g) where the employer is an undertaking which is insolvent under the laws,
regulations and administrative procedures of another Member State in
1980 as amended by Article 1(2) of Directive 2002/74/EC of the European
Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 and the employees
concerned are employed or habitually employed in the State, the date on
which the insolvency was established under the laws, regulations and
administrative procedures of that other Member State.

(2) The Minister may by regulations specify the circumstances in which emplo-
yers who are of a class or description specified in the regulations are, for the purposes of
this Act, to be taken to be, or to have become, insolvent.

(3) The Minister may by regulations specify the day on which any employer who is
of a class or description specified in the regulations and who is also an employer who
for the purposes of this Act is insolvent, is to be regarded as having become so
insolvent.

5.—(1) Where—

(a) by virtue of section 1 (3) (d) of this Act, an employer becomes insolvent for
the purposes of this Act, or

(b) an employer otherwise becomes insolvent for such purposes and there is not
for the time being in relation to the insolvency a relevant officer,

the Minister may appoint as regards such insolvency a person under this subsection.

(2) Where the Minister makes an appointment under this section the following
provisions shall apply:

(a) the functions assigned by this Act to a relevant officer shall, as regards the
employer concerned, be performed by, and only by, the person to whom the
appointment relates, or, if through illness or because his appointment is
revoked or for any other reason the person so appointed is unable to perform
such functions, another person so appointed, and

(b) for so long as the appointment remains in force, each of the references to a
relevant officer in sections 6, 7 and 8 of this Act shall be construed as
including a reference to the person to whom the appointment relates.

6.—(1) If, on an application made to him in the prescribed form by or on behalf of
an individual, the Minister is satisfied that—

(a) the person by or on whose behalf the application is made (which person is in
this section subsequently referred to as “the applicant”) is a person to whom
this Act applies, and that he was employed by an employer who has become
insolvent, and
(b) the date on which the employer became insolvent is a day not earlier than the 22nd day of October, 1983, and

c) on the relevant date the applicant was entitled to be paid the whole or part of any debt to which this section applies,

the Minister shall, subject to this section, pay to or in respect of the applicant out of [the Social Insurance Fund] the amount which, in the opinion of the Minister, is or was due to the applicant in respect of that debt.

(2)(a) Subject to paragraph (b) of this subsection, the following are debts to which this section applies—

(i) any arrears of normal weekly remuneration in respect of a period, or of periods in the aggregate, not exceeding eight weeks, and to which the applicant became entitled during the relevant period,

(ii) any arrears due, in respect of a period or periods not exceeding eight weeks in all under a scheme or arrangement which, forming part of an employee’s contract of employment, provides or is capable of providing in relation to employees in any description of employment, payments payable to any such employees in respect of periods during which they are unable to fulfil their contract of employment due to ill health and to which the applicant became entitled during the relevant period,

[(iii) at the election of the employee, either—

(I) any amount which an employer is required to pay, by virtue of an award under section 12 of the Act of 1973 made not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period, either for the period of notice required by section 4 of the Act of 1973 or by reason of a failure by that employer to give the notice required by the said section 4, or

(II) any unpaid normal weekly remuneration certified by the relevant officer as being the amount of normal weekly remuneration due to the employee in lieu of the statutory notice prescribed in section 4 of the Act of 1973,]

(iv) any holiday pay in respect of a period or periods of holiday not exceeding eight weeks in all, and to which the applicant became entitled during the relevant period,

[(v) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of—

(I) a determination under section 8 (1) or 9 (1) or an order under section 10 (2) of the 1977 Act, or

[(II) a decision, determination or order under Part V of the Maternity Protection Act, 1994, Part IV of the Parental Leave Act, 1998, or Part 4 of the Carer’s Leave Act, 2001,]

(vi) any amount to which a recommendation under section 8 (1) of the Act of 1977 relates, being a recommendation which was made not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(vii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of an employment regulation order within the meaning of Part IV of the Industrial Relations Act, 1946, being an amount by reference to which proceedings have been instituted against the employer for an offence under section 45 (1) of that Act,

(viii) any amount—
(I) specified in a recommendation issued under section 7(3) of the Act of 1974, or section 19(3) of the Employment Equality Act, 1977,

(II) which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision or determination of an appeal by the Labour Court under subsection (1) of section 8 of the Act of 1974 or subsection (2) of section 21 of the Employment Equality Act, 1977 or, where appropriate, a decision of the High Court given by virtue of either subsection (3) of the said section 8 or subsection (4) of the said section 21, [or]

(III) which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision, determination or order of a court falling within section 103(3) of the Employment Equality Act, 1998,

(ix) damages awarded under section 24(3)(a) of the Employment Equality Act, 1977,

(x) a fine imposed under section 8(4)(c)(i) or paragraph (a) (inserted by section 30 of the Employment Equality Act, 1977) of section 9(3) of the Act of 1974 or under section 25(3)(a)(iii) or 26(3)(a)(iii) of the Employment Equality Act, 1977, [...]

(xi) compensation directed to be paid under section 10(1)(d) (inserted by section 31 of the Employment Equality Act, 1977) or section 10(3)(a) (inserted by the said section 31) of the Act of 1974 or under section 26(1)(d)(iii) of the Employment Equality Act, 1977.

([xii] any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000, being an amount by reference to which proceedings have been instituted against the employer for an offence under section 35 of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000, and)

([xiii] any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of—

(I) a decision of a rights commissioner under section 26 of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000, or

(II) a determination of the Labour Court under section 29 of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000,

and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement [of the relevant period,])

([xiv] any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by way of order by a rights commissioner under section 6(2) of the Act of 1991 or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under section 7(1) of the Act of 1991 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period, provided that a claim in respect of the amount to which the decision or determination refers has not been made under another provision of this section,

(xv) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a recommendation by way of order by a rights commissioner under section 7(2)(d) of the Act of 1994 or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under section 8(1) or section 8(6)(a) of the Act of 1994 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xvi) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a recommendation by a rights commissioner under section 18(2) of the Act of 1996 or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under subsection (1) or (6) of section 19 of the Act of 1996 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,
(xvii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under section 27(2) of the Act of 1997 or a determination by the Labour Court under subsection (1) or (8) of section 28 of the Act of 1997 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xviii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under section 4(4) of the Act of 1998 or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under subsection (1) or (6)(a) of section 8 of the Act of 1994 as amended and extended by section 4(6)(b) of the Act of 1998 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xix) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under section 16(1) of the Act of 2001 or a determination by the Labour Court under subsection (1) or (8) of section 17 of the Act of 2001 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xx) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under section 14(1)(b) of the Act of 2003 or a determination by the Labour Court under subsection (1)(b) or (8) of section 15 of the Act of 2003 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xxii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under Regulation 6(1) of the European Communities (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2000 (S.I. No. 488 of 2000) or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under subsection (1) or (6)(a) of section 8 of the Act of 1994 as amended and extended by the same Regulations and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xxiii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision by a rights commissioner under paragraph 4 of the Third Schedule to the Act of 2002 or a determination by the Employment Appeals Tribunal under subsection (1) or (6)(a) of section 8 of the Act of 1994 as amended and extended by paragraph 6(b) of the Third Schedule to the Act of 2002 and made, in any case, not earlier than the commencement of the relevant period,

(xxiv) any amount which an employer is required to pay by an employee in respect of remuneration by virtue of a registered employment agreement within the meaning of Part III of the Industrial Relations Act 1946, being an amount by reference to which an order of the Labour Court has been made under section 32(1)(b) of that Act or section 10(1)(b) of the Act of 1969, or proceedings have been instituted under section 54(1) of the Act of 1990, [...]}

(xxv) any amount which an employer is required to pay to an employee in respect of remuneration by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under subsection (4)(b) of section 9 of the Act of 2004 or a determination by the Labour Court under subsection (1)(b) of section 10 of the [Act of 2004, [...]]]
(xxvi) any amount that an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under paragraph 1(2) of Schedule 2 to the Protection of Employees (Temporary Agency Work) Act 2012 or a determination by the Labour Court under paragraph 2(1) of that Schedule.

((xxvii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under paragraph 1(2)(b) of Schedule 2 to the Act of 2011 or a determination by the Labour Court under paragraph 2(1)(b) of that Schedule, [...])

((xxviii) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under section 45A(2)(b) of the Industrial Relations Act 1946 or a determination by the Labour Court under section 45B(1)(b) of that Act, [...])

((xxix) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under paragraph 1(2)(b) of Schedule 4 to the Property Services (Regulation) Act 2011 or a determination by the Labour Court under paragraph 2(1) of that Schedule, [...])

((xxx) any amount which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a decision of a rights commissioner under paragraph 1(2)(b) of Schedule 5 to the Central Bank (Supervision and Enforcement) Act 2013 or a determination by the Labour Court under paragraph 2(1)(b) of that Schedule, and)

((xxxi) any amount that an employer within the meaning of the Act of 2015 is required to pay by virtue of a decision of an adjudication officer or the Labour Court under Part 4 of that Act.)

(b) Any amount, damages, fine or compensation referred to in subparagraph (viii), (ix), (x) [(xi), (xv), (xvi), (xxvii), (xxviii), (xix), (xx), (xxi), (xxii), (xxiii), (xxiv), (xxv) or [(xxvi) [(xxvii) [(xxviii) [(xxix) [(xxx) [(xxxi) or (xxxi)]]]] of paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be regarded as being a debt to which this section applies if, and only if, the relevant recommendation, decision, determination, award or order was made during, or after the expiration of, the relevant period.

((c) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of a debt referred to in subparagraph (xv), (xxvii), (xxviii), (xix), (xx), (xxi), (xxii), (xxiii), (xxiv), (xxv) or [(xxvi) [(xxvii) [(xxviii) [(xxix) [(xxx) [(xxxi) or (xxxi)]]]] of paragraph (a) of this subsection until the period for making an appeal against—

((i) the decision or recommendation, as appropriate, of the rights commissioner, or the decision of the adjudication officer under Part 4 of the Act of 2015,]

((ii) the determination of the Employment Appeals Tribunal or the Labour Court, as appropriate,

has expired, or any such appeal made has been withdrawn or determined.]

(3) Where—

(a) legal proceedings are instituted by or on behalf of an employee and on foot of all or any of the following—

(i) a claim for arrears described in subparagraph (i) or (ii) of subsection (2) of this section,
(ii) a claim for holiday pay described in subparagraph (iv) of the said
subsection (2),

(iii) a claim for damages at common law for wrongful dismissal,

an award is made by the court in favour of the employee, and

(b) had the employee made an application under subsection (1) of this section in
respect of any of the matters referred to in subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iii) of
paragraph (a) of this subsection he would have satisfied the requirements
of paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of the said subsection (1),

subject to subsection (4) (a) of this section, there shall be paid out of [the Social
Insurance Fund], to or in respect of the employee, an amount equal to—

(i) the amount of the award, or

(ii) the maximum which would have been payable out of the said Fund by
virtue of this Act had the employee successfully sought redress under
section 8 (1) or 9 (1) of the Act of 1977.

(4) (a) The amount payable to an employee in respect of any debt mentioned in
subsection (2) or award mentioned in subsection (3) of this section shall,
where the amount of that debt is or may be calculated by reference to the
employee’s remuneration, not exceed [€600] in respect of any one week or,
in respect of any period of less than a week, an amount bearing the same
proportion to [€600] as that period bears to the normal weekly working hours
of the employee at the relevant date.

(b) An amount payable under this section in respect of a debt mentioned in
subsection (2) (a) (ii) of this section as regards a particular period, shall not
exceed the difference between the amount of any disability benefit or injury
benefit payable under the Act of 1981 to the employee concerned as regards
the period (together with, in either case, the amount of any pay-related
benefit payable to such employee under the Act of 1981 as regards the
period) and the amount of his normal weekly remuneration as regards the
period.

(c) (i) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount
which an employer is required to pay by virtue of a determination having
been made under section 8 (1) or 9 (1) of the Act of 1977, unless—

(I) if proceedings are instituted under section 10 of the Act of 1977, the
proceedings are withdrawn, or

(II) in case an appeal is brought under section 10 (4) of the Act of 1977
from the determination, the appeal has been either withdrawn or
determined, or

(III) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal
has expired.

(ii) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount
to which a recommendation under section 8 (1) of the Act of 1977 relates
unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the recommendation is brought under section
9 (1) of the Act of 1977, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal
has expired.

(iii) A payment shall not be made under this section as regards a recommenda-
dtion referred to in subsection (2) (a) (viii) (I) of this section unless—
(I) in case an appeal is brought under section 8 (1) (a) of the Anti-Discrimination (Pay) Act, 1974, or section 21(1) of the Employment Equality Act, 1977, against the recommendation, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal has expired.

((iv) a payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount to which a decision under Part V of the Maternity Protection Act, 1994, Part IV of the Parental Leave Act, 1998, or Part 4 of the Carer’s Leave Act, 2001, relates unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the decision to the Tribunal is brought under the Part in question, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal has expired.

((v) a payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount to which a determination under Part V of the Maternity Protection Act, 1994, Part IV of the Parental Leave Act, 1998, or Part 4 of the Carer’s Leave Act, 2001, relates unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the decision or determination is brought under that Part, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal has expired.)

((vi) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount to which a determination under any provision of the Employment Equality Act, 1998, applies unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the decision or determination is brought under that Part, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal has expired.)

((vii) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount to which a decision of a rights commissioner under section 26 of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000, relates unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the decision to the Labour Court is brought under section 27 of that Act, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no such appeal, the time for bringing such an appeal has expired.

(viii) A payment shall not be made under this section in respect of an amount to which a determination under section 29 of the National Minimum Wage Act, 2000, relates unless—

(I) in case an appeal from the determination is brought to the High Court under section 30 of that Act, the appeal is withdrawn, or

(II) in case there is no appeal, the time for bringing an appeal has expired.)]

(5) The provisions of subsections (6) and (7) of this section shall apply in a case where a relevant officer is either appointed or required to be appointed.

(6) Subject to subsection (7) of this section, the Minister shall not in a case which is a case referred to in subsection (5) of this section make any payment under this section in respect of any debt until he has received a statement in the prescribed
form from the relevant officer of the amount of that debt which appears to have been owed to the employee on the relevant date and to remain unpaid; and the relevant officer shall, on a request being made in that behalf, by the Minister, provide him, as soon as is reasonably practicable, with such a statement.

(7) Where—

(a) a period of six months has elapsed since the application for a payment under this section was received by the Minister, but no such payment has been made,

(b) the Minister is satisfied that a payment under this section should be made, and

(c) it appears to the Minister that there is likely to be further delay before he receives a statement referred to in subsection (6) of this section regarding the debt in question,

then, the Minister may, if the applicant so requests, or if the Minister thinks fit, without such a request, make a payment under this section notwithstanding the fact that no such statement has been received.

(8) Where an application is made to the Minister under this section and in relation to any or each of the debts to which the application relates, the Minister is satisfied that—

(a) there was an agreement between the applicant and the employer concerned that the whole or any part of the debt would be the subject of an application under this section, and

(b) when the agreement was made such employer had the means to pay such debt or the part thereof,

the Minister may either refuse the application or disallow it in so far as it relates to such debt or part.

(9) In this section—

“normal weekly remuneration” has the meaning assigned to it by Schedule 3 to the Act of 1967 for the purposes of that Schedule save that any reference in that Schedule to the date on which an employee was declared redundant may, where appropriate, be construed as including a reference to the relevant date;

“the relevant date” means—

(a) in relation to a debt which is an amount, damages, fine or compensation referred to in [subparagraph (iii)(I),] (v), (vi), (viii), (ix), [[(x), (xi), (xiii), (xiv), (xv), (xvi), (xvii), (xviii), (xix), (xx), (xxi), (xxii), (xxiii), (xxiv), (xxv), (xxvi), (xxvii), (xxviii), (xxix), (xxx), (xxxi) or (xxxii)]][[[sub section (2) (a) of this section, the date on which the relevant employer became insolvent or the date on which the relevant recommendation, decision, determination, award or order is made, whichever is the later,

[(aa) in relation to a debt referred to in subparagraph (iii)(II), the date of termination of employment.]

(b) in relation to any other debt to which this section applies—

(i) in case the relevant applicant’s employment is terminated as a result of the relevant employer’s insolvency, the date on which such employer became insolvent, or the date of such termination, whichever such applicant shall as regards the debt nominate, or

(ii) in any other case, the date on which such employer became insolvent;
“the relevant period” means in relation to a debt to which this section applies, the period of eighteen months immediately preceding the relevant date.

(10) No reference in subsection (3) of this section to an award shall be construed as including a reference to any amount allowed as regards costs.

7.—(1) If, on an application made to him in the prescribed form by an employee or by the persons competent to act in respect of an occupational pension scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)], the Minister is satisfied that—

(a) an employer (being in case the application is made by a person otherwise than in his capacity as the person competent so to act the employer of the applicant) has become insolvent,

(b) the date on which for the purposes of this Act the employer became insolvent is a day not earlier than the 22nd day of October, 1983, and

(c) on that day there remained unpaid relevant contributions remaining to be paid by the employer to the scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)],

on the date on which the employer became insolvent, being a date not earlier than the said 22nd day of October the Minister shall, subject to this section, pay into the assets of the scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)] out of the [the Social Insurance Fund] the sum which in his opinion is payable in respect of the unpaid relevant contributions.

(2) In this section “relevant contributions” means contributions falling to be paid by an employer in accordance with an occupational pension scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)], either on his own account or on behalf of an employee; provided that for the purposes of this section a contribution of any amount shall not be treated as falling to be paid on behalf of an employee unless a sum equal to that amount has been deducted from the pay of the employee by way of a contribution from him.

(3) The sum payable under this section in respect of unpaid contributions of an employer on his own account to an occupational pension scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)] shall be the lesser of the following amounts—

(a) the balance of relevant contributions remaining unpaid on the date on which he became insolvent and payable by the employer on his own account to the scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)] in respect of the period of twelve months ending on the day immediately preceding that date,

(b) the amount certified by an actuary [(or, where the employer is an undertaking which is insolvent under the laws, regulations and administrative procedures of another Member State in accordance with Article 2(1) of Council Directive 80/987/EEC of 20 October 1980 as amended by Article 1(2) of Directive 2002/74/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2002 and the employees concerned are employed or habitually employed in the State, an actuary or person performing a similar task)] to be necessary for the purpose of meeting the liability of the scheme on dissolution to pay the benefits provided by the scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)] to or in respect of the employees of the employer.

(4) Any sum payable under this section in respect of unpaid contributions on behalf of an employee shall not exceed the amount deducted from the pay of the employee in respect of the employee’s contributions to the occupational pension scheme [or Personal Retirement Savings Account (within the meaning of the Pensions Act, 1990)].
during the period of twelve months ending on the day immediately preceding the
date on which the employer became insolvent.

(5) The provisions of subsections (6), (7) and (8) of this section shall apply in a case
where a relevant officer is either appointed or required to be appointed.

(6) Subject to subsection (8) of this section, the Minister shall not in a case which
is a case referred to in subsection (5) of this section make any payment under this
section in respect of unpaid relevant contributions until he has received a statement
in the prescribed form from the relevant officer of the amount of relevant contribu-
tions which appear to have been unpaid on the date on which the employer became
insolvent and to remain unpaid; and the relevant officer shall, on request made by
the Minister provide him, as soon as reasonably practicable, with such a statement.

(7) Subject to subsection (8) of this section, an amount shall be taken to be payable
under subsection (3) or to have been deducted in the manner referred to in subsection
(4) of this section, only if it is certified by the relevant officer as being so payable, or
to have been so deducted.

(8) Where—

(a) a period of six months has elapsed since the application for a payment under
this section was received by the Minister, but no such payment has been
made,

(b) the Minister is satisfied that a payment under this section should be made, and

(c) it appears to the Minister that there is likely to be further delay before he
receives a statement or certificate about the contributions in question,

then, the Minister may, if the applicant so requests or, if the Minister thinks fit,
without such a request, make a payment under this section, notwithstanding the fact
that no statement or certificate referred to in subsection (6) or (7) of this section has
been received.

8.—(1) Where an application is made to the Minister under section 6 or 7 of this
Act in respect of a debt owed or unpaid contributions to an occupational pensions
scheme, the Minister may require—

(a) the employer concerned, or, in case a relevant officer is or is required to be
appointed, that officer, to provide him with such information as the Minister
may reasonably require for the purpose of determining whether the applica-
tion is well-founded, and

(b) any person having the custody or control of any relevant record kept and
retained pursuant to section 10 of the Holidays (Employees) Act, 1973, or
any register, card, wages sheet, record of wages or other document which
an officer of the Minister may reasonably consider to be relevant to the
application to produce to such officer such document for examination by
him.

(2) A requirement under this section shall be made by notice in writing given to the
person on whom the requirement is imposed and may be varied or revoked by a
subsequent notice so given.

9.—[(1) A person who has applied for a payment—

(a) under section 6 of a debt described in subparagraph (i), (ii) or (iv) of subsection
(2)(a) of that section, or

(b) to be made under section 7 of this Act into the resources of a pension scheme,
may present a complaint to the Director General that—

(i) the Minister has failed to make such payment, or

(ii) any such payment made by the Minister is less than the amount that the Minister is required to pay under section 6 or 7, as may be appropriate.]

[(1A) The Director General shall refer a complaint presented to him or her under subsection (1) for adjudication by an adjudication officer.

(1B) An adjudication officer shall not entertain a complaint referred to him or her under this section if it has been presented to the Director General after the expiration of the period of 6 months beginning on the date of the decision by the Minister in relation to the application to which the complaint relates.

(1C) An adjudication officer may entertain a complaint to which this section applies presented to the Director General after the expiration of the period referred to in subsection (1B) (but not later than 6 months after such expiration) if he or she is satisfied that the failure to present the complaint within that period was due to reasonable cause.]

(2) […]

[(3) Where a claim for payment is made under section 6 or 7 and it appears to the Minister that a doubt exists as to whether or not such claim is allowable (in whole or in part), he may refer any matter arising in connection with the claim to the Director General, and the Director General shall refer the matter for adjudication by an adjudication officer.]

(4) Where on the hearing of a complaint presented under this section the adjudication officer finds that the Minister is liable to make a payment under section 6 or 7 of this Act, he shall make a declaration to that effect and shall specify in the declaration the amount of such payment.

(5) […]

[(6) In this section—

‘adjudication officer’ has the same meaning as it has in the Act of 2015; and

‘Director General’ means the Director General of the Workplace Relations Commission.]
10.—(1) Where, in pursuance of section 6 of this Act, the Minister makes any payment to an employee in respect of any debt to which that section applies, any rights and remedies of the employee in respect of that debt (or, if the Minister has paid only part of it, in respect of that part) shall, on the making of the payment, become rights and remedies of the Minister.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, where rights and remedies become, by virtue of subsection (1) of this section, rights and remedies of the Minister, there shall be included amongst them any right to be paid in priority to all other debts under—

(a) section 4 of the Preferential Payments in Bankruptcy (Ireland) Act, 1889; or

(b) section 285, as amended by section 10 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1982, of the Companies Act, 1963,

and the Minister shall be entitled to be so paid in priority to any other unsatisfied claim of the employee concerned being a claim which, but for this subsection, would be payable to the employee in such priority; and in computing for the purposes of any of the provisions of the said section 4 or the said section 285, as so amended, any limit on the amount of sums to be paid, any sums paid to the Minister shall be treated as if they had been paid to the employee.

11.—(1) The Minister may from time to time by order amend section 3 of this Act so as to—

(a) extend the application of this Act to employees who are of a class or description specified in the order,

(b) exclude from such application employees who are of a class or description so specified.

(2) The Minister may from time to time by order amend section 6 of this Act so as to effect either or both of the following—
(a) substitute for the number of weeks specified in all or any of the following subsections, namely, subsection (2) (a) (i), (2) (a) (ii) or (2) (a) (iv) a different number of weeks,

(b) substitute for the number of months specified in the definition of “the relevant period” contained in subsection (9) thereof a different number of months.

(3) The Minister may from time to time by order amend section 4 (2), as amended by section 17 of the Redundancy Payments Act, 1979, and by section 12 of this Act, of the Act of 1967, so as to vary the number of hours specified therein.

(4) The Minister may from time to time by order amend—

(a) paragraph (a) of section 3 (1), as amended by section 13 of this Act, of the Act of 1973,

(b) paragraph 8, as amended by the said section 13, of the First Schedule to the Act of 1973,

so as to vary the number of hours specified in that paragraph.

(5) The Minister may by regulation amend section 6 of this Act so as to vary the limit specified in subsection (4) (a).

(6) The reference in section 2 (4) of the Act of 1977 to the First Schedule to the Act of 1973 shall be construed as being a reference—

(a) in case an order under this section amending that Schedule is for the time being in force, that Schedule as amended by section 20 of the Act of 1977, by section 13 of this Act and by the order,

(b) in case no such order is so in force, that Schedule as amended both by the said section 20 and the said section 13.

(7) Where an order under this section is proposed to be made, the Minister shall cause a draft of the order to be laid before each House of the Oireachtas and the order shall not be made until a resolution approving of the draft has been passed by each such House.

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**Amendment of section 4 of Act of 1967.**

12.—Subsection (2) of section 4, as amended by section 17 of the Redundancy Payments Act, 1979, of the Act of 1967 is hereby amended by the substitution of “18 hours” for “20 hours”, and the said subsection (2), as so amended, is set out in the Table to this section.

**TABLE**

(2) This Act shall not apply to a person who is normally expected to work for the same employer for less than 18 hours in a week.

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**Amendment of section 3 of and First Schedule to Act of 1973.**

13.—The Act of 1973 is hereby amended by—

(a) the substitution in paragraph (a) of section 3(1) of “eighteen hours” for “twenty-one hours”, and

(b) the substitution of “eighteen hours” for “twenty-one hours” in paragraph 8 of the First Schedule;

and the said paragraphs (a) and 8, as so amended, are set out in paragraphs 1 and 2, respectively, of the Table to this section.

**TABLE**
1. (a) employment of an employee who is normally expected to work for the same employer for less than eighteen hours in a week.

2. 8. Any week in which an employee is not normally expected to work for at least eighteen hours or more will not count in computing a period of service.

14.—Proceedings for an offence under section 15 of this Act shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Minister.

15.—(1) If any person, in relation to an application under section 6 or 7 of this Act, whether for himself or for some other person,

(a) knowingly makes any false statement or false representation or knowingly conceals a material fact, or

(b) produces or furnishes, or causes or knowingly allows to be produced or furnished, any document or information which he knows to be false in a material particular,

he shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If a person refuses or wilfully neglects to provide any information or produce any document which he has been required to provide or produce by a notice under section 8 of this Act he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) If a person, in purporting to comply with a requirement of a notice under section 8 of this Act, knowingly or recklessly makes any false statement he shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £500.

(5) Subsections (8) and (9) of section 266 of the Act of 1981 shall apply in relation to an offence under this section which is committed by a body corporate as they apply to offences under Part V of the Act of 1981 which are so committed.

(6) Subsection (10) of section 266 of the Act of 1981 shall be construed and have effect as if the reference therein to proceedings under Part V of the Act of 1981 contained a reference to proceedings under this section.

16.—(1) The Minister may make regulations for giving effect to this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, regulations under this section may make provision requiring an applicant under section 6 or 7 of this Act to make the application within the prescribed time.

(3) The Minister may make regulations for prescribing any matter referred to in this Act as prescribed.

(4) Regulations under this section may apply to applications under this Act generally or to such applications which are of a prescribed class or description.

(5) Every regulation made under this Act by the Minister shall be laid before both Houses of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made and, if a resolution annulling the regulation is passed by either such House within the next twenty-one days on which that House has sat after the regulation is laid before it, the regulation shall be annulled accordingly but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.
17.—(1) The expenses incurred by the Minister in the administration of this Act shall, to such extent as may be sanctioned by the Minister for Finance, be paid out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas.

(2) The Minister may pay out of the Social Insurance Fund to a relevant officer or a person to whom an appointment under section 5 of this Act relates, in respect of the functions performed by him under this Act, such fees as the Minister shall, with the concurrence of the Minister for Finance, determine.

18.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Protection of Employees (Employers’ Insolvency) Act, 1984.
