

Benjamin Cronshaw

1

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Workforce Incentive

I note that the Bill enables people receiving age pension, disability support pension or veteran's entitlements to have their payments suspended rather than cancelled, if they earn enough in employment to no longer qualify for benefits – allowing them to more easily return to their benefits when they fall back under the threshold. This means that people can pursue employment that is fulfilling for them and gives them greater income, without worrying that they will lose their pension in the future. This can be particularly concerning in the current economy with many people employed in casual or unstable work. By being able to return to their pension if they lose their work, or it falls back under a certain threshold, they can have more stability and security in their lives. It also allows people to keep their pensioner card for two years, which removes another potential disincentive to work. These are a couple of simple measures, but they seem to be good ones.

Such measures are good in the economic recovery we are going through during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is also good for elderly people receiving welfare entitlements – many of whom may feel the need to pursue work, particularly if they or their families lost any income during the pandemic – to have the freedom to pursue work without facing disincentives.

Kind Regards,

Benjamin Cronshaw.