



## NEWSLETTER

Number 75

12 October 2011

Dear Colleague

### STATE PENSION AGE

THIS LETTER HAS BEEN SENT BY THE NATIONAL PENSIONERS CONVENTION TO ALL MPs IN ADVANCE OF NEXT WEEK'S VOTE. PLEASE DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO CONTACT YOUR MP BETWEEN NOW AND 18 OCTOBER TO ADD ADDITIONAL PRESSURE. THANK YOU.

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*Dear MP*

*As you know, the Pensions Bill gets its third reading on 18th October 2011. Of particular concern is the proposal to alter the State Pension Age.*

*The plan to speed up the equalisation and uprating of the State Pension Age will affect 5 million people - particularly women. 500,000 women currently in their late 50s, will have to wait more than a year longer to get their pension, whilst 33,000 will have to wait a full two years.*

*The Pensions Minister, Steve Webb has promised that there will be transitional arrangements put in place for those most affected by the changes, but he has yet to publish any details.*

*Essentially, the proposals are unfair because:*

- They do not give those affected enough notice to plan for their retirement*
- They have a disproportionate impact on women, who will have to wait longer than men for their state pension*
- Those who have to wait could lose a maximum of £10,600 in unclaimed pension (depending on how long their State Pension Age is delayed) \* see attached table for details*
- The arrangements also accelerate the rise of the State Pension Age to 66 by 2020 for men and women - will force those affected to work at least 4 years longer than previously announced*

*The National Pensioners Convention is therefore asking you to vote against the Bill and stop this unfair attack on a generation of working women.*

Yours sincerely

*John Amos*

John Amos  
Deputy General Secretary