



# WELFARE REFORM BILL – THE NEXT STEPS IN THE CAMPAIGN

Attend the lobby of parliament Tuesday 3 March – all welcome

## Write a letter to your MP

Unite the union is asking you to attend the public meeting and lobby on the Welfare Reform Bill, Tuesday 3 March 12.30-2.30pm committee room 14 at the House of Commons. You need to tell your MP that you want to meet them on the day of the lobby. If you can not attend the lobby then you should still write to your MP and ask them to attend.

The lobby is supported by a range of organisations including trade unions and the TUC, service user groups and campaigning organisations.

You may want to write a personal letter rather than a standard or model letter as it shows the strength of feeling you have about the campaign. Relaying personal experiences to your elected representative will help to illustrate the key issues persuasively.

### If you intend to write your own letter you may wish to:

- Introduce yourself and say where you live.
- Clearly and simply explain about the campaign. Your MP maybe unaware of the issues involved.
- If you can, give examples of how you are affected.
- Be specific about what you would like your MP to do (i.e. support the campaign and the early day motions, ask the Minister to look for alternatives to the current proposals contained in the welfare reform bill).
- Ask your MP to keep in regular contact with you and to give you copies of any responses they receive from other MPs or the Secretary of State.

We have included a model letter. You may want to use it to send to your MP if you do not have time to write your own personal letter.

### IDENTIFYING AND CONTACTING YOUR MP

The best way to contact your MP is to write to them at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. All MPs have Westminster offices and will make arrangements for their mail to be dealt with or redirected when they are away from London. You can telephone your MP's office at the House of Commons by telephoning the switchboard (Tel: 020 7219 3000) and asking to be connected to the MP's office. Some MPs can be contacted by email, and their office or the House of Commons Information Office or parliament website can give the details.

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