

LAWS OF GUYANA

PUBLIC OFFICERS' PENSIONS ACT

CHAPTER 27:05

Act  
22 of 1977

**Current Authorised Pages**

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**Note**  
**on**  
**Subsidiary Legislation**

**This Chapter contains no subsidiary legislation.**

## CHAPTER 27:05

## PUBLIC OFFICERS' PENSIONS ACT

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

## SECTION

1. Short Title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Agreement to have the force of law in Guyana.
4. Cessation of application of pension laws.

## SCHEDULE

22 of 1977

**An Act to implement the agreement between the Government of Guyana and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the pensions of certain public officers and for purposes connected therewith.**

[1<sup>st</sup> July, 1980]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Public Officers' Pensions Act.

Interpretation.

2. (1) In this Act—

“the Agreement” means the Public Officers' Pensions (Guyana) Agreement 1977 the text of which is set out in the Schedule;

Schedule.

“pension laws” has the meaning assigned to that expression in the Agreement.

Agreement to have the force of law in Guyana.

3. The Agreement shall have the force of law in Guyana.

Cessation of application of pensions laws

4. With effect from the coming into operation of this Act the pensions laws shall not apply to pensions to which the Agreement applies.

s. 2

## SCHEDULE

### AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND CONCERNING PUBLIC OFFICERS' PENSIONS.

The Government of the Republic of Guyana and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have agreed as follows:

#### ARTICLE 1 INTERPRETATION

In this Agreement, except where the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "actuary" means a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries or of the Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland;
- (b) "the appointed day" means "the day mutually arranged between the Government of Guyana and the Government of the United Kingdom;
- (c) "the Guyana element" in relation to a pension (other than compensation or interest thereon payable under the Public Officers (Compensation and Retirement Benefits) Regulations 1966 or a widows' and orphans' pension) means—

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- (i) in respect of a pension arising from death resulting from an injury on duty or a pension or additional pension arising from such an injury being a pension which results from an occurrence during relevant service, that proportion of the pension which the rate of the officers' pensionable emoluments other than inducement allowance at the date he received the injury bears to the rate of the officer's total pensionable emoluments at that date;
- (ii) in the case of any other pension, that proportion of the pension which the total pensionable emoluments other than inducement allowance enjoyed by the officer during his relevant service bears to the total pensionable emoluments enjoyed by him throughout his public service under the Government of Guyana which have been taken into account in determining the amount of that pension;
- (d) "inducement allowance" means any inducement allowance which is pensionable under the pensions laws and is enjoyed by an officer under the Overseas Service (British Guiana) Agreement 1961, or any agreement or arrangement amending or

replacing the same;

- (e) "officer" means an officer to whom the Public Officers Agreement between Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of Guyana signed at Georgetown on the 26th May, 1966 (hereinafter referred to as "the Public Officers Agreement") applies or applied and who was not a citizen of Guyana on 1 April, 1971 or who, having retired from the public service or having died in public service after that date, is not or was not a citizen of Guyana at the time of his retirement or death, as the case may be;
- (f) "other public service" means public service not under the Government of Guyana;
- (g) "pension" means any pension, gratuity, compensation and interest thereon, retiring allowance or other like benefit, or any increase of pension, or any contributions repayable to, or interest on contributions payable to, any officer, payable under the pensions laws by the Government of Guyana to or in respect of any officer, or to the widow or child of any officer or to his legal personal representative;
- (h) "pensionable emoluments" –
  - (i) in respect of public service

under the Government of Guyana (or any of its predecessor Governments) means emoluments which count for pension under the pensions laws;

- (ii) in respect of other public service, means emoluments which count for pension in accordance with the laws or regulations in force in such service;

- (i) "pension laws" means—

- (i) in relation to pensions other than widows' and orphans pensions, any law, regulation or administrative direction providing for the payment of pensions to officers in respect of public service and in force in Guyana at any time prior to 1 April, 1971 and enacted prior to that date (including the Public Officers (Compensation and Retirement Benefits) Regulations 1966);
- (ii) in relation to widows' and orphans' pensions, the Public Officers (Widows and Orphans' Fund) Ordinance, Chapter 203 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of British Guiana 1930, and any amendments thereto in force at any time prior to 1 April, 1971 and enacted prior to that date (hereinafter referred to as Chapter 203) and

the Widows and Orphans Pension Ordinance, Chapter 75 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of British Guiana 1953 and any amendments thereto in force at any time prior to 1 April, 1971 and enacted prior thereto (hereinafter referred to as Chapter 75);

(iii) in relation both to widows' and orphans' pensions and to other pensions, any other law, regulation or administrative direction accepted by the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Guyana for the purposes of this Agreement;

(j) "public service" means—

(i) service in a civil capacity under the Government of Guyana or any of its predecessor Governments or any other country or territory in the Commonwealth;

(ii) service under the East Africa High Commission, the East African Common Services Organisation, the East African Posts and Telecommunications Administration, the East African Railways and Harbours Administration, the East African Community, the East African Harbours Corporation, the East African Post and

- Telecommunication Corporation or the East African Railways Corporation; the East African Community, the East African Harbours Corporation, the East African Posts and Telecommunications Corporation or the East African Railways Corporation;
- (iii) service which is pensionable —
- (aa) under the Overseas Superannuation Scheme; or
- (bb) under any Acts relating to the superannuation of teachers in the United Kingdom; or
- (cc) under a local authority in the United Kingdom; or
- (dd) under the National Health Service of the United Kingdom;
- (iv) any other service accepted by the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Guyana to be public service for the purposes of this Agreement;
- (v) except for the purposes of computation of a pension, gratuity or other allowance and of determination of the maximum pension grantable,

- service as a Governor in respect of which a pension may be granted under the Overseas Pensions Act 1973 or any Act amending or replacing that Act;
- (vi) service as the holder of the office of President, Vice-President, Justice of Appeal, Registrar, officer or servant of the Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa established by the Eastern Africa Court of Appeal Order in Council, 1961 (United Kingdom S. I. 1961 No. 2323) or the Court of Appeal for East Africa;
- (vii) service in the service of the Interim Commissioner for the West Indies;
- (k) "relevant service" means public service in a Civil capacity under the Government of Guyana on or after 26th May, 1966;
- (l) "the taxation element" means the sum accepted by the two Governments as being equivalent to the proceeds of income tax or any similar tax received by the Government of Guyana on any sums which reimbursable in accordance with sub-paragraph (l) (d) of Article 3;
- (m) "widows' and orphans' pensions" means pensions payable under Chapter 203 or Chapter 75.

## ARTICLE 2

ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY BY THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

As from the appointed day the Government of the United Kingdom shall assume from the Government of Guyana the responsibility for the control, administration and payment of pensions which have been awarded before the appointed day and for the award, control, administration and payment of pensions which would fall to be awarded on or after the appointed day.

## ARTICLE 3

OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED  
KINGDOM

(1) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake—

- (a) that they shall award, control, administer and pay the pensions referred to in Article 2 of this Agreement to or in respect of the persons concerned in accordance with the principles and rules contained in the pensions laws, with such modifications as may be necessary in consequence of the transfer of responsibility under this Agreement, or in accordance with such other principles and rules as the Government of the United Kingdom consistently with the next following paragraph may from time to time determine;
- (b) that apart from any modifications arising from the pensions being

payable out of public moneys of the United Kingdom they shall not apply to or in respect of any officer different provisions from those contained in the pensions laws (other than any provisions, express or implied, relating to the currency and method of payment of a pension) so as to make such provisions less favourable to any beneficiary or potential beneficiary than the provisions applicable to him on the appointed day:

Provided that if a beneficiary or potential beneficiary elects to have any provision applied to him, that provision shall be taken to be more favourable to him;

- (c) that if the Government of Guyana should be adjudged by the order of a competent court of law having jurisdiction in Guyana to be liable to pay to or in respect of an officer or the widow or child or legal personal representative of an officer any sum in respect of a pension for which the Government of the United Kingdom have assumed responsibility under this Agreement, the Government of the United Kingdom shall repay to the Government of Guyana any sum paid to such person for the purpose of complying with the order of the court; but in this event the Government of the United Kingdom shall be free to reduce by corresponding sums, or totally to withhold, any payments of the same pension to or in respect of

that person which would otherwise fall to be made by them under this Agreement;

- (d) that they shall reimburse the Government of Guyana, in accordance with such procedure as may be mutually arranged between the two Governments, the aggregate amount, less the taxation element, of the following payments due on or after 1st April 1971, being amounts due under the pensions laws, and made by the Government of Guyana to or in respect of officers:
- (i) the full cost of payments representing that proportion of a pension or gratuity payable to or in respect of an officer which accrues from public service under the Government of Guyana before 26<sup>th</sup> May 1966;
  - (ii) such proportion (if any) of the cost of payments representing that part of the pension or gratuity payable to or in respect of an officer which accrues from public service under the Government of Guyana on or after 26<sup>th</sup> May 1966, as is attributable to his pensionable inducement allowance;
  - (iii) the full cost of payments representing compensation to an officer.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) (d)

of this Article—

- (a) the proportion of a pension or gratuity which accrues from service before 26<sup>th</sup> May 1966 is that proportion which the total pensionable emoluments received by an officer from his public service under the Government of Guyana prior to 26<sup>th</sup> May 1966 bears to his total pensionable emoluments received from all his public service under that Government;
- (b) subject to sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph the proportion of a pension or gratuity which is attributable to inducement allowance is that proportion which the total pensionable inducement allowance received by an officer during his relevant service bears to the total pensionable emoluments received by him from all his public service under the Government of Guyana;
- (c) in respect of a pension arising from death resulting from an injury on duty or an injury pension, being a pension which results from an occurrence during relevant service, the proportion which is attributable to inducement allowance is that proportion of the pension which the rate of the officer's pensionable inducement allowance at the date of his injury bears to the rate of his total pensionable emoluments at that date.

ARTICLE 4  
OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA

- (1) The Government of Guyana undertake—
- (a) that they shall remain responsible for any instalments of pension other than widows' and orphans' pension which remain unpaid on the appointed day;
  - (b) that they shall as from the appointed day relinquish responsibility for the award, control, administration and payment of any pension otherwise than in accordance with the terms of this Agreement;
  - (c) that they shall pay to the Government of the United Kingdom in accordance with such arrangements as may be accepted by the two Governments—
    - (i) in respect of any pension (other than a widows' and orphans' pension) awarded before the appointed day to or in respect of an officer, a sum representing the cost, if any, of the Guyana element of such pension;
    - (ii) in respect of any pension (other than widows' and orphans' pension) awarded on or after the appointed day to or in respect of an officer;
- (aa) that part of the sum

which would represent the Guyana element of such pension if the public service of the officer ceased on the appointed day, which is attributable to the officer's relevant service up to the day immediately preceding the appointed day; and

- (bb) 25% of the officer's pensionable emoluments, other than inducement allowance, earned during that part of his relevant service which occurs on or after the appointed day;
- (iii) in respect of widows' and orphans' pension, such stocks, funds, securities or moneys as represent the interest in the Widows' and Orphans' pension fund established under Chapter 2:03 and in the New Widows' and Orphans' Fund established under Chapter 75 of contributory officers and their potential beneficiaries alive on the appointed day and the beneficiaries alive on the appointed day of deceased contributory officers, taking into account instalments of widows' and Orphans'

pensions remaining unpaid on the appointed day.

(2) The sums payable under sub-paragraphs (1)(c)(i), (1)(c)(ii)(aa) and (1)(c)(iii) of this Article shall be actuarially determined by an actuary nominated by the Government of the United Kingdom and acceptable to the Government of Guyana and shall be reduced by a sum accepted by the two Governments as representing the tax which the Government of Guyana would have received in respect of the Guyana element of the pensions.

#### ARTICLE 5 SUPPLY OF INFORMATION

Each of the Parties to this Agreement shall whenever requested to do so by the other Party, supply to that Party such information in connection with the operation of the arrangements contained in this Article as may be specified in such request.

#### ARTICLE 6 MODIFICATION OF PREVIOUS AGREEMENT

(1) On and after the appointed day the provisions of the Overseas Service (British Guiana) Agreement 1961, and any agreement or arrangement amending or replacing the same, relating to the reimbursement of the Government of Guyana by the Government of the United Kingdom of a proportion of the cost of a pension shall cease to apply to any pension payable to or in respect of an officer in respect of any period beginning on the appointed day.

(2) On and after the appointed day the provisions of Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and the words "and shall take any action that may be necessary to preserve his pension rights when he is so transferred or promoted" in Article 8(2) and

Articles 8(3) and 9 of the Public Officers Agreement shall cease to apply to or in respect of officers to whom this Agreement applies.

ARTICLE 7  
MODIFICATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

If the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of Guyana mutually decide that this Agreement should be modified in any particular case or class of cases, the foregoing provisions of this Agreement shall be applied to such case or cases with such modifications, additions or exceptions as may be necessary to give effect to such mutual decision.

ARTICLE 8  
ENTRY INTO FORCE

Each of the Parties to this Agreement shall notify the other Party in writing as soon as it has completed the domestic legislation and other arrangements necessary to enable it to carry out the Agreement, and this Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the later of these two notifications.

ARTICLE 9  
CITATION

This Agreement may be cited as the Public Officers' Pensions (Guyana) Agreement 1977.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, duly authorised [thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done in duplicate at Georgetown this 26th day of July, 1977.

For the Government of the Republic of Guyana: F. E. Hope

Minister of Finance.

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland:

Peter Gautrey  
High Commissioner.

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