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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Czech Republic
Title:	Paternity benefit proposed
Date:	11 February 2016
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	The Czech government proposes to introduce paternity benefit under the sickness insurance scheme
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Policy development
Field:	Social security
Applicable law:	Act No. 187/2006 Coll., on sickness insurance

Content

Policy development: In December 2015, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs presented a proposal for amendment of the Act No. 187/2006 Coll., on sickness insurance, in order to introduce a paternity benefit. The father of the child shall be entitled to this benefit, if he cares for a newborn child (until the child reaches six weeks of age). The entitlement shall last for one week. The benefit shall be counted under the same conditions as maternity benefit (70 % of the daily salary). After the child has reached six weeks of age, there is a possibility to claim the maternity benefit instead of the mother, upon a written agreement of both parents. This proposal shall be discussed by the Parliament in the near future.

Key points of analysis: After several discussions and attempts to support fathers and encourage them to take care after their new-born child, the Ministry has finally come up with a concrete proposal for a paternity benefit, which can be expected to be quite popular among Czech fathers.

Internet link source:

<http://www.mpsv.cz/cs/23270>, accessed 16 January 2015.