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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Czech Republic
Title:	Government proposes faster drawing of parental allowance
Date:	8 September 2016
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Government – proposal for amendment of the State Social Support Act
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Legislation (proposal)
Field:	Other
Applicable law:	Act No. 117/1995 Coll., on State Social Support

Content

Law development: The Government – Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – has followed up on its promises given in January 2016 that it would present a few bills in order to help people to harmonise professional and family life. In June 2016, the Government approved a bill presented by the Ministry, according to which parents would be able to draw parental allowance in a faster way. Currently, parents have CZK 220 000 (EUR 8 141) at their disposal maximum until the child reaches four years. However, the maximum monthly benefit is CZK 11 500 (EUR 426). This means that currently the fastest way of drawing the total amount of parental leave is 19 months (whereas the parental leave can be claimed only after the maternity benefit has been drawn – for 22 weeks after the child was born). The proposal envisages that the maximum monthly benefit would reach CZK 32 640 (EUR 1 208) and parents who wish to return to work sooner could do so after six months, without losing their right to draw the whole benefit. If approved by the Parliament, the amendment shall enter into force as of 1 January 2017.

Key points of analysis: The proposed amendment shall help to parents to better harmonise their professional and family life, if they wish to return to work sooner than parents usually do (parents – mainly mothers - usually remain for 2-3 years at home). In addition, more child-care services (with more alternatives) are needed.

Internet link source:

[http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/26956/TZ_MPSV -
_Cerpani_rodicovskeho_prispevku_bude_flexibilnejsi_2_.pdf](http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/26956/TZ_MPSV_-_Cerpani_rodicovskeho_prispevku_bude_flexibilnejsi_2_.pdf), accessed 30 July 2016