

Contact your MP regarding plans to repeal the ban on agency workers, such as supply teachers, being supplied to cover industrial action

Currently, Regulation 7 of the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003, prevents supply teachers as agency workers from being supplied to a school to work during industrial disputes.

Regulation 7 reflects the long-standing national and international acceptance that agency workers should not be used to replace those on strike.

Following recent industrial action by the RMT, the Government has now proposed to repeal Regulation 7. If such a change is introduced, it will apply across all sectors, including those working in the public sector, such as supply teachers as agency workers.

As such, the NASUWT is asking members to write to their MP to lobby against the Government proposals to permit agency staff, such as supply teachers, to replace workers who are taking industrial action.

A template letter is provided below to assist you when writing to your MP. You are welcome to tailor this to your own specific circumstances as you see fit.

Some tips for writing to your MP/MS

- Keep it to the point and be polite.
- We have provided some starter text, but it is much more powerful to tell your MP/MS about your own experiences.
- Elected representatives have a duty to listen and respond to voters who live in their constituency, so write to your own MP/MS.
- Find out more about your representatives on the TheyWorkForYou website.

Some starter text

<<ANYTHING IN CAPITALS IS OPTIONAL TEXT THAT YOU CAN REPLACE/AMEND AS YOU WISH>>

I currently work as a supply teacher/teacher *[delete as appropriate]* in <<ADD THE NAME OF YOUR COUNTY/CONSTITUENCY>>. I am extremely worried and concerned at the current government proposals to repeal the ban on agency workers, such as supply teachers, being supplied to a school to work during industrial disputes.

I am asking that you vote against proposals to repeal Regulation 7 of the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations 2003, which makes it clear that agency workers, such as supply teachers, cannot be used to perform the duties usually covered by a worker on strike.

<<I AM A *[insert as appropriate]*

- SUPPLY TEACHER
- TEACHER
- SCHOOL LEADER
- OTHER *[PLEASE SPECIFY]>>*

As I am sure you are aware, any proposals to amend Regulation 7 and permit agency workers, such as supply teachers, to substitute for other teachers undertaking lawful industrial action would put **supply teachers/school leaders** *[delete as appropriate]* in an appalling situation and will almost certainly inflame tensions during any strike action.

Furthermore, allowing agency workers, such as supply teachers, to replace teachers undertaking industrial action would undermine the right to strike and could create safety risks for the public and for the workforce.

In addition, allowing agency workers, such as supply teachers, to work during strike action will not fundamentally address the underlying issues causing the dispute.

Please confirm that you will oppose any proposals to repeal Regulation 7 of the Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses Regulations which prevents agency workers from being supplied during industrial disputes.

<<ENSURE YOUR NAME AND POSTCODE ARE INCLUDED>>