

# Women underpaid state pension snubbed by Parliamentary Ombudsman

Married women who were unaware they could claim a better state pension have had their complaints thrown out.

The Parliamentary Ombudsman says it will not investigate grievances from wives denied thousands of pounds in missed payments.

They complained of maladministration by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) - claiming they were not informed of their right to a state pension based on their husband's work record.

The Ombudsman says the law did not allow for the unclaimed money to be paid back.

Former Pensions Minister Sir Steve Webb, says he will fight to overturn the decision.

Wives entitled to the rate after March 2008 have been able to claim back money because the DWP was supposed to pay the increased rate automatically after that date.

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The Parliamentary Ombudsman says it will not investigate grievances from wives who were denied backdated pension payments

