

Reform of access to transfer payments

Rules for pensions and declaration of the intent to establish general-widow funds (Cabinet order no. 739, The Ruling Cabinet in Denmark 1768-1772).

On 21 July 1771, a cabinet order was sent out, signed by both the king and Struensee, regarding common regulations for pensions.

In the future, pensions of over 1,000 dollars would no longer be paid. Those who were already receiving pensions above this amount would have them reduced. Pensions between 1,000 and 500 dollars would be halved, and lower pensions would be reduced by a percentage.

No one would be allowed to access their pensions out of the country.

Struensee gave widows extra attention, as the decree on pensions also included a statement that widows were exempt from taxes.

The final point in the decree was a declaration of the intent to establish a general widow fund. A widow fund was an insurance scheme, where one could pay toward assistance in the unexpected event that one was without possibility of support.

Such a measure was not just for the benefit of those affected, enabling them to fend for themselves. It would also save money for the beleaguered royal treasury, as it proposed 'to completely free up my (the king's) cash for expenses.'