

Isolation and quarantine*

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Abstract

Isolation and quarantine are two terms that have been with us since the beginning of the pandemic. This article discusses the benefits of insured farmers (household members) due to compulsory quarantine, epidemiological surveillance, hospitalization for COVID-19 or home isolation. The aim of the article is to present the general principles and conditions for granting the above-mentioned benefits, the group of people entitled to receive them and the rules for determining their amount. It presents the coincidence of the right to quarantine benefit with the right to sickness benefit and the doubts that arise in connection with this. The author draws attention to the discrepancies in the benefits received from the Agricultural Social Insurance Fund (KRUS) by farmers in the case of falling ill or suspected of being infected with COVID-19. In summary, it indicates the most important conclusions from the research.

Keywords: hospitalization, home isolation, quarantine, farmer, benefit.

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Introduction

The legal protection of the family is one of the basic constitutional principles, developed and specified in the provisions of special acts, including those in the field of social insurance for farmers. It is worth recalling that the basic directions of the legal protection of the family include providing the family with appropriate living and development conditions and providing assistance through various types of social benefits¹. Therefore, social insurance aims to protect an individual (family) against the effects of random events that cause loss of earning potential. In this scope, social insurance covers: sickness, motherhood, family situations, loss of a breadwinner, accident at work, occupational disease, invalidity, old age. In the subjective scope, it covers the employed and their families, as the consequences of the loss of earning capacity include both the insured and his family².

The Act of April 16, 2020 on special support instruments in connection with the spread of the SARS-CoV-2³ virus provides various types of benefits for farmers insured in KRUS in the event of falling ill with COVID-19, including an increased sickness allowance, allowance for compulsory quarantine, epidemiological surveillance or hospitalization in relation to COVID-19 – hereinafter referred to as quarantine allowance.

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Act of 20 December 1990 on the social insurance of farmers⁴, these benefits are payable to the insured farmer, his spouse or household member who have been insured both under the Act (i.e. compulsory mode) and upon request (voluntarily).

A farmer is considered to be an adult natural person residing and running in the territory of the Republic of Poland, personally and on his own account, an agricultural activity on a farm owned by him, including also within the group of agricultural producers, as well as a person who allocated the land of the farm he runs for afforestation (art. 6 section 1 of the Act on the farmers' social insurance).

A household member is a person close to the farmer who is 16 years of age and who remains with the farmer in the same household or lives on the farm or in the close vicinity and works on this farm on a permanent basis and is not connected with the farmer by any employment relationship (art. 6 section 2 of the Act on the farmers' social insurance).

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1. W. Koczur, H. Szewczyk, *On the issue of family legal protection in the farmers' social insurance*, Research Works, University of Economics in Katowice, p. 87–96.
 2. J. Hryniewicz, *The impact of changes in social policy in Poland on relations between generations*, University of Warsaw, 2014, p. 14.
 3. T.j. Dz. U. 2022 poz. 376.
 4. Ustawa z 20 grudnia 1990 roku o ubezpieczeniu społecznym rolników, Dz. U. 2021 poz. 266 ze zm., hereinafter referred to as the Act of farmers' social insurance

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The Act on the farmers' social insurance art. 1 sec. 1 specifying the entities whose rights it regulates, indicates the farmer and the household members working with him, and also in art. 5 – spouses of a farmer. Even though the legislator has not decided to formulate the definition of a spouse in the insurance act, in accordance with Art. 5, the provisions of the Act concerning the farmer's insurance and benefits due to the farmer also apply to the farmer's spouse, unless the spouse does not work in a farm or in a household directly related to that farm.

The purpose of this article is to present the general principles and conditions of granting the above-mentioned benefits, the group of people entitled to receive them and the principles of determining their amount.

Principles of granting the right to benefits in the event of falling ill with COVID-19

Before discussing the principles of granting the above-mentioned benefits, First I would like to explain the basic concepts: quarantine, epidemiological surveillance, hospitalization and home isolation. These issues were defined in the Act of 5 December 2008 on the prevention and combating of infections and infectious diseases in humans⁵.

The definition of quarantine is specified in art. 2 point 12 of the above-mentioned Act. According to the definition contained in this provision, quarantine is the isolation of a healthy person who has been exposed to an infection in order to prevent the spread of particularly dangerous and highly contagious diseases. Pursuant to the applicable regulations, mandatory quarantine is imposed automatically upon receipt of a referral for the SARS-CoV-2 virus test and lasts from the date on which the test was issued until the test is negative, which automatically releases you from mandatory quarantine (the quarantine ends no later than seven days, counted from the day after the date of receipt of the referral). The quarantine to which a person running a shared household or living with a person diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 virus infection is subject continues throughout the isolation period of the household member who has been diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 virus infection. If a person is vaccinated, they can perform a test – a negative result will release them from quarantine. In accordance with the regulations of the Regulation of the Council of Ministers of May 6, 2021 on the establishment of certain restrictions, orders and bans in connection with the occurrence of an epidemic⁶,

5. T.j., Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2069 ze zm.

6. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 861.

and until February 28, 2022, every person crossing the border of the Republic of Poland, constituting the external border (in principle) is obliged to present a negative result of the SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test to a Border Guard officer, mainly before crossing the border, within 24 hours from the moment of obtaining this result test. Failure to provide a Border Guard officer with a negative result of such a test results in the obligation to undergo a seven-day quarantine after crossing the border of the Republic of Poland, counting from the day following the crossing of that border⁷.

The concept of the epidemiological surveillance is contained in art. 2 item 14 of above-mentioned Act. Epidemiological surveillance is the observation of an infected or suspected person, without restricting his freedom of movement, performing sanitary and epidemiological tests on this person in order to detect biological pathogens or confirm the diagnosis of an infectious disease, and gathering, analyzing and interpreting information about the circumstances and consequences of infection (individual supervision), as well as constant, systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of information about diseases or other processes taking place in the field of public health, used to prevent and combat infections or infectious diseases.

According to the ordinance of the Ministry of Health of March 14, 2020, people hospitalized due to the coronavirus are patients diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection or the infectious disease COVID-19 caused by it⁸.

The definition of home isolation is specified in art. 2 point 11a of the Act of 5 December 2008 on preventing and combating infections and infectious diseases in humans. According to it, isolation at home is the isolation of a sick person with a course of an infectious disease who does not require absolute hospitalization for medical reasons at his place of residence or stay in order to prevent the spread of particularly dangerous and highly infectious diseases. Home isolation lasts seven days. At the same time, the doctor of the District Health Center may decide to extend it, if the health condition requires it. Home isolation begins on the day the patient receives a positive SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test. Information about the diagnostic test result can be found on the Internet Patient Account (IKP). The patient may also be informed about the test result by telephone – by a doctor or an employee of the County Health Center clinic.

After discussing the basic definitions, I would like to present the conditions for acquiring the right to benefits in the event of falling ill with SARS-CoV-2.

From May 16, 2020, a person insured in KRUS may apply for a special benefit in the event of compulsory quarantine, epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in

7. Serwis Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, *Wszystko o kwarantannie*, www.gov.pl, access 25.02.2022.

8. M. Kostyńska, *Osoba zarażona, hospitalizowana, objęta nadzorem lub kwarantanną – co to znaczy*, <https://www.medonet.pl/>, access 25.02.2022.

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connection with SARS-CoV-2. The quarantine allowance was initially due to an insured farmer (household member) who was subject to compulsory quarantine due to:

- returning to the country from abroad,
- coronavirus infection,
- suspected coronavirus infection,
- close contact with a person infected or suspected of being infected with the coronavirus or has been placed under epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19.

The allowance was also granted to the insured farmer who lived or farmed together with a person who was in compulsory quarantine after crossing the border or on the basis of a decision of the state sanitary inspector.

As of October 24, 2020, the rules of targeting mandatory quarantine have been changed. Pursuant to the new rules, the group of people who are quarantined and entitled to the allowance on this account excludes people who live or manage together with a person:

- returning from abroad,
- suspected of being infected with the coronavirus and directed to a diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2.

Only in the event of a positive result of the test person's test, the persons who manage or live together with her are subject to compulsory quarantine and are entitled to the allowance⁹.

From February 11, 2022, the quarantine for people who came into contact with a person infected with COVID-19 was also removed¹⁰.

The proceedings for the granting and payment of the quarantine allowance are initiated upon a written request submitted in person or through an entrepreneur authorized to perform postal activities in domestic or foreign traffic. Applications submitted in electronic form must be submitted via the electronic KRUS inbox – ePUAP or in the form of an electronic document signed with a qualified electronic signature or a trusted signature. The application should be accompanied by the decision of the state powiat sanitary inspector or the state border sanitary inspector or a medical certificate informing about hospitalization in connection with COVID-19. From October 24, 2020, the person referred to quarantine does not attach any documents to the application for the benefit for compulsory quarantine. The fact of having been quarantined by KRUS is

9. KRUS, *Zasilek dla ubezpieczonego rolnika i domownika z tytułu objęcia obowiązkową kwarantanną, nadzorem epidemiologicznym lub hospitalizacją w związku z COVID-19*, <https://www.krus.gov.pl/zadania-krus/swiadczenia/zasilek-dla-rolnika-i-domownika-z-tytułu-objęcia-obowiązkowa-kwarantanna-nadzorem-epidemiologicznym-lub-hospitalizacja-w-zwiazku-z-covid-19/>, access 25.02.2022.

10. Serwis Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, *Wszystko o kwarantannie*, www.gov.pl, access 25.02.2022.

confirmed by its own in the ICT system containing the data of quarantined persons¹¹. If the insured farmer/household member who applied for the quarantine benefit does not appear in the ICT system, the Fund must initiate an investigation and oblige the applicant to present a document confirming the quarantine period, e.g. a printout from the Patient's Internet Account or a document issued by the state sanitary inspector¹².

The provisions of the Act of June 25, 1999 on cash benefits from social insurance in the event of sickness and maternity shall apply to the granting and payment of the quarantine allowance¹³.

The quarantine allowance is payable for the period of compulsory quarantine, epidemiological surveillance or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19, not earlier than before April 18, 2020. This means that even one day of compulsory quarantine, epidemiological surveillance or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19 is enough to qualify for the benefit. In the light of the above, the basis for the payment of the allowance for compulsory quarantine or epidemiological supervision is the submission by the person concerned of the relevant application and confirmation by the Fund in the ICT system of the period indicated in the application.

In the case of coronavirus infection, when the insured person was hospitalized and received a medical certificate confirming the disease with COVID-19, KRUS examines the entitlement to quarantine allowance on the basis of a sick leave.

The entitlement to the quarantine allowance should be determined no later than 30 days from the date of clarifying the last circumstance necessary to issue the decision¹⁴.

It is only paid once, except where the insured farmer and the household member are quarantined multiple times, and the periods of quarantine, epidemiological surveillance or hospitalization fall at different intervals that do not overlap and do not coincide with each other. A break of at least 60 days is required between the end of the incapacity to work and the occurrence of another incapacity for work due to the same disease (Art. 9 sec.1 and 2 of the Act on cash benefits).

11. Rozporządzenie Rady Ministrów z 23 października 2020 roku zmieniające rozporządzenie w sprawie ustanowienia określonych ograniczeń, nakazów i zakazów w związku z wystąpieniem stanu epidemii, Dz. U. 2020 poz. 1871.
12. KRUS, *Zasilek dla ubezpieczonego rolnika i domownika z tytułu objęcia obowiązkową kwarantanną, nadzorem epidemiologicznym lub hospitalizacją w związku z COVID-19*, <https://www.krus.gov.pl/zadania-krus/swiadczenia/zasilek-dla-rolnika-i-domownika-z-tytulu-objecia-obowiazkowa-kwarantanna-nadzorem-epidemiologicznym-lub-hospitalizacja-w-zwiazku-z-covid-19/>, access 25.02.2022.
13. Ustawa z 25 czerwca 1999 o świadczeniach pieniężnych z ubezpieczenia społecznego w razie choroby i macierzyństwa, Dz. U. 2021 poz. 1133 ze zm., hereinafter referred to as the Act on cash benefits.
14. KRUS, *Zasilek dla ubezpieczonego rolnika i domownika z tytułu objęcia obowiązkową kwarantanną, nadzorem epidemiologicznym lub hospitalizacją w związku z COVID-19*, <https://www.krus.gov.pl/zadania-krus/swiadczenia/zasilek-dla-rolnika-i-domownika-z-tytulu-objecia-obowiazkowa-kwarantanna-nadzorem-epidemiologicznym-lub-hospitalizacja-w-zwiazku-z-covid-19/>, access 25.02.2022.

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If the insured farmer/household member is covered by home isolation, which has been confirmed in the ICT system, upon application for a quarantine allowance, a sickness allowance should be granted in the amount specified in the regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of December 20, 2021 on determining the amount of one-time compensation due to an accident at work in agriculture or agriculture, an occupational disease and sickness benefit¹⁵, i.e. in the amount of PLN 30 for each day of temporary incapacity to work lasting continuously for no more than 14 days, if this incapacity is caused by an infection or a respiratory disease marked in the medical certificate as U07.1. Thus, if the applicant has applied for a quarantine allowance and has received confirmation from the ICT system that the person concerned was in home isolation, KRUS only issues a decision granting sickness benefit for PLN 30 (not longer than for 14 days), but does not issue a decision refusing the right to benefit for compulsory quarantine. This causes the disinformation of the interested parties themselves, as they believe that their application for this (compulsory quarantine) has not been considered. No decision to deny the right to quarantine benefit creates chaos. To conclude this thread, it is reasonable to change the current practice of KRUS, which would consist in the fact that in the case of confirmation of home isolation, a decision is issued on granting the right to sickness benefit with a simultaneous refusal of the allowance to quarantine.

To sum up, in the case of coronavirus infection, when the insured person has not been hospitalized and has not been quarantined, only at home isolation or has received a sick leave confirming falling ill with COVID-19, KRUS examines entitlements to sickness benefit in the amount of PLN 30 for each day of incapacity for work lasting continuously no longer than 14 days. The entitlement to the benefit is determined on the basis of the submitted application, i.e. ZUS ZLA sick leave or on the basis of a previously submitted application for quarantine benefit.

The amount of benefits paid to farmers in the event of falling ill with COVID-19

During the period of quarantine or isolation, farmers (household members) may receive benefits awarded by KRUS. However, there is a drastic difference in the amount of the allowance in the case of home insulation.

In 2020, an insured person (a farmer, his spouse, household member) who was incapable of work continuously for at least 30 days due to illness, was entitled to sickness benefit for each day of incapacity to work on a farm in the amount of PLN 10

15. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2396.

(pursuant to Art. 14 sec. 1 of the the Farmers' Social Insurance Act of 20 December 1990)¹⁶. Due to the state of epidemic threat introduced in Poland, and then the state of the epidemic, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development issued regulations of March 19, 2020 and September 23, 2020 amending the regulation on determining the amount of one-time compensation for an accident at work in agriculture or agricultural disease during the period of the epidemic threat or epidemic status in the territory of the Republic of Poland, announced on the basis of the Act of December 5, 2008 on the prevention and combating of infections and infectious diseases in humans in connection with SARS-CoV-2 infection¹⁷. The regulation increased the rate of the daily sickness benefit to PLN 15 per day of incapacity for work of the farmer and his family for a period not longer than 14 days, if the doctor marked the exemption with the U07.1 COVID-19 symbol, in accordance with the International Classification of Diseases and Health Problems. After the period of 14 days, the allowance of PLN 10 was charged per day, if the incapacity for work lasted continuously for 30 days¹⁸.

From January 1, 2022, the sickness allowance was increased to PLN 20 for each day of incapacity for work. In accordance with the ordinance of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of December 20, 2021 on the determination of the amount of one-time compensation for an accident at work in agriculture or agricultural occupational disease and the sickness benefit¹⁹, the sickness benefit was also increased due to SARS-CoV-2 infections to PLN 30 for each day of temporary inability to work continuously for no longer than 14 days.

The situation is different for a farmer who has not contracted COVID-19, but only has contact with an infected person. From April 18, 2020, art. 31zy of the Act of March 2, 2020 on special solutions related to the prevention, counteraction and combating COVID-19, other infectious diseases and the emergencies caused by them²⁰. If the insured farmer and household member are referred to compulsory quarantine or epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19, the insured farmer and household member are entitled to an allowance in the amount of 50% of the minimum remuneration for work referred to in the Act of October 10, 2020 on the minimum wage for jobs²¹ that:

16. Ustawa z 20 grudnia 1990 roku o ubezpieczeniu społecznym rolników, Dz. U. 2021 poz. 266.

17. T.j. Dz. U. 2020 poz. 1845.

18. Rozporządzenie Ministra Rolnictwa i Rozwoju Wsi z 23 września 2020 roku zmieniające rozporządzenie w sprawie określenia wysokości jednorazowego odszkodowania z tytułu wypadku przy pracy rolniczej lub rolniczej choroby zawodowej oraz zasiłku chorobowego, Dz. U. 2020 poz. 1664.

19. T.j., Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2396.

20. T.j. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2095 ze zm.

21. Dz. U. 2020 poz. 2207.

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- from January 1, 2020, it is PLN 2,600,
- from January 1, 2021, it is PLN 2,800,
- from 1 January 2022, it is PLN 3,010.

Therefore, the amount of the allowance for compulsory quarantine, epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19:

- until December 31, 2020 is PLN 1,300,
- from January 1, 2021, it is PLN 1,400,
- from 1 January 2022, it is PLN 1,505.

In view of the above, KRUS pays persons referred to isolation (patients with confirmed COVID-19) an allowance of PLN 30 per day for 14 days, and PLN 20 per day after 14 days. Therefore, a sick person will receive PLN 420 in 14 days. A person who has had contact with an infected person who is in quarantine will receive PLN 1,505. As of February 11, 2022, the quarantine will only apply to people living with someone with COVID-19²².

In the event of the convergence of the right to the quarantine benefit with the right to the sickness benefit referred to in art. 14 of the Act of 20 December 1990 on farmers' social insurance, the beneficiary is paid one benefit – higher or selected by the entitled person.

The above-mentioned regulations show that a sick person, i.e. forced to undergo isolation, is excluded from the possibility of receiving an allowance for compulsory quarantine in the amount of 50% of the minimum remuneration for work (from January 1, 2022, PLN 1,505). She is only entitled to sickness benefit in the amount of only PLN 30 a day, i.e. PLN 210 for the entire stay of seven days in isolation.

Hence, the amount of both benefits is disproportionate. It is difficult to understand such a significant difference between the amount of social insurance benefits paid to farmers (household members) depending on whether they were in quarantine or under isolation. Not only due to the fact that people covered by sickness benefit have to undergo the COVID-19 disease, and therefore are more exposed to the risk of losing health and life – not to mention the very discomfort of passing the infection, but mainly because the effect of both forms of isolation is practically the same. Mandatory quarantine concerns a healthy person and is conducted in order to reduce the risk of spreading the infection. Such a monetary distinction creates absurd situations. Illustrating the above with the example of a family of four living together and one family member suffering from COVID-19, the household members receive different benefits. A sick person, who will have to buy medications, can currently only receive a benefit of PLN 210. Other family members who live together

22. Serwis Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej, *Wszystko o kwarantannie*, www.gov.pl, access 25.02.2022.

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with the patient will receive a quarantine allowance in the amount of PLN 1,505. Such treatment of a sick person seems to be unfair, to say the least, since all family members are as isolated as the sick person and have the same sanctions.

A farmer with a positive COVID-19 result is not able to run a farm on his own and have to worry about what will he pay from to the worker who will be needed for the time of his indisposition. It can also be assumed that the family of a sick farmer will also get sick and that there will be problems with the possibility of performing field work for them.

Child care allowance during isolation or quarantine

In a situation where a kindergarten or nursery is closed, and a child is placed in quarantine or isolation, the insured farmer (household member) may apply for a care allowance. He will receive it if he submits an application for care allowance in which he declares that he is taking care of the child personally:

- up to the age of 8,
- who has a certificate of significant or moderate degree of disability up to the age of 18, or a child with a certificate of disability or a special education certificate.

The care allowance is granted when the facilities are closed due to COVID-19 and when the facility that resumed education/inpatient care is closed or its functioning, although open, will be limited due to unforeseen closure of the class, a branch, i.e. when it is not possible to provide care for the above-mentioned children and disabled people²³. This allowance is not due if the other parent of the child can provide care for the child (e.g. is unemployed, takes parental leave or parental leave)²⁴.

The farmer's care allowance is financed from the state budget and paid by KRUS. The amount of this allowance for each day is $\frac{1}{30}$ of the amount of the basic old-age pension as defined in Art. 6 point 7 of the Act of December 20, 1990 on the social insurance of farmers²⁵.

23. Ustawa z 2 marca 2020 roku o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych, t.j. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2095 ze zm.

24. KRUS, Zasilek dla ubezpieczonego rolnika i domownika z tytułu objęcia obowiązkową kwarantanną, nadzorem epidemiologicznym lub hospitalizacją w związku z COVID-19, <https://www.krus.gov.pl/zadania-krus/swiadczenia/zasilek-dla-rolnika-i-domownika-z-tytułu-objęcia-obowiązkowa-kwarantanna-nadzorem-epidemiologicznym-lub-hospitalizacja-w-zwiazku-z-covid-19/>, access 25.02.2022.

25. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 266 ze zm.

Summary

The current legislation on determining the amount of benefits paid for compulsory quarantine or home isolation needs to be adjusted, as currently people with COVID-19 receive a lower benefit than people in quarantine. The difference in granting benefits is due to different legal basis. The amount of the allowance for the quarantine, epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19 is determined by the provisions of the Act of March 2, 2020 on special solutions related to the prevention and combating of COVID-19. On the other hand, the amount of the sickness benefit was determined in the regulation of the Minister of Agriculture on the determination of the amount of one-time compensation for an accident at work in agriculture or an occupational disease in agriculture and the sickness benefit.

In my opinion, this is a manifestation of an unequal treatment of the same social group, namely people who have been contracted with COVID-19 by the legislator. One of the possible solutions to the situation is to make the two benefits equal, i.e. to add to Art. 31zy³ section 1 of the Act, apart from “quarantine, epidemiological supervision and hospitalization in connection with COVID-19”, also “isolation”. Such a solution seems to be right, because none of these people have the possibility of agricultural work.

At the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, work has been underway since mid-2021 to amend the currently applicable regulations. In art. 2 of the draft act amending the act on farmers’ social insurance and some other acts (No. UD273), which is currently the subject of inter-ministerial consultations and public consultations, a proposed amendment to the Act of March 2, 2020 on special solutions related to the prevention and combating of COVID-19, other infectious diseases and the crisis situations caused by them, and certain other acts²⁶. Pursuant to this act, a farmer and a household member referred to in the Act of 20 December 1990 on farmers’ social insurance²⁷, in the event of being covered by compulsory quarantine, epidemiological supervision or hospitalization in connection with COVID-19, are entitled to an allowance of 50% of the minimum remuneration for work, referred to in the Act of 10 October 2002 on the minimum remuneration for work²⁸. The possibility of receiving such an allowance was introduced to the above-mentioned act through the

26. T.j. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 2095 ze zm.

27. Dz. U. 2021 poz. 266 ze zm.

28. Dz. U. 2020 poz. 2207.

amendment included in the act of April 16, 2020 on special support instruments in connection with the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus²⁹, which entered into force on April 18, 2020. The Act of May 14, 2020 amending certain acts in the field of protective measures due to the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus³⁰ clarified the provisions regarding the granting of the above-mentioned benefit and imposed on the Agricultural Social Insurance Fund the obligation to grant and pay this benefit from April 18, 2020 (i.e. from the entry into force of the act of April 16, 2020).

Farmers in isolation due to COVID-19 infection receive from KRUS a sickness benefit of PLN 30 a day for 14 days, and farmers in quarantine, hospitalized or under epidemiological supervision receive an allowance of 50% of the minimum wage, which from January 1, 2022, it amounts to PLN 1,505. This causes dissatisfaction with this social group, which is so diverse – it is more profitable to be in quarantine than in isolation.

Therefore, in order to eliminate the clear difference in the possibilities of receiving the above-mentioned benefits by farmers, it is proposed in the draft act to extend the situations allowing for receiving the allowance of 50% of the minimum wage to include insulation. It will meet the demands of the agricultural environment and eliminate the existing social injustice³¹.

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29. T.j. Dz. U. 2022 poz. 376.

30. Dz. U. 2020 poz. 875 ze zm.

31. Rządowe Centrum Legislacji, *Projekt ustawy o zmianie ustawy o ubezpieczeniu społecznym rolników oraz ustawy o szczególnych rozwiązaniach związanych z zapobieganiem, przeciwdziałaniem i zwalczaniem COVID-19, innych chorób zakaźnych oraz wywołanych nimi sytuacji kryzysowych*, druk UD273, legislacja.rcl.gov.pl/projekt/12351451/katalog/12816016#12816016, access 21.09.2021.

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