## 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 The Press Association

## SURVIVORS of child abuse still feel a waiver built into a new bill to compensate them is a "betrayal", a campaigner has said.

The Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Bill is currently at stage two in the Scottish Parliament and would give financial compensation to survivors. However, as part of the bill, survivors would have to sign a waiver saying they would not pursue further legal action against care providers after they have received the payment.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney has said previously this is to ensure care providers contribute financially to the scheme, ensuring they are not hit with further financial penalties by a court at a later date.

But the waiver has proven controversial, prompting Swinney to propose a number of possible changes to the legislation, including extending the time given to survivors to decide if they wish to take the payment and sign the waiver from 12 weeks to six months.

Wellbeing Scotland chief executive Janine Rennie said survivors remain angry. "They still feel that the waiver has been a betrayal of everything they've been through," she said.