Hello,

From my point of view going IT freelancer is a win-win experience for both myself and the company that "employs" me. I enjoy the extra money I can get as an IT freelancer whereas they benefit from not having to worry about pensions/redundancy/sick pay/holiday pay. I accept the lack of job security and benefits as it was my choice to become a freelancer for the increase in pay.

I feel that giving me more protection and rights is the wrong way to go as it means there will be no incentive for companies to use my services as the cost and difficulty to them will be much greater - therefore they won't bother employing me.

If any temporary staff do need protecting it's the following:
1) the ones not earning more than 30% (gross) of the salaried member. By definition this means they are cheap labour and probably in a vulnerable position not of their choice.
   or
2) ones that are earning a rate within 25% of the minimum wage - again they are in a vulnerable position not of their choosing.
   or
3) ones earning less than half the average salary.

IT contractors in the UK at a rate say of £35 an hour do not need protecting and their clients don't need to provide extra benefits for them as they are both happy.

I hope my opinion helps!

regards

Adrian Mayes