

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: FAV 01/26/2012

The Committee on Commerce and Tourism (Ring) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 189 - 249 and insert:

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generated by a personal identification number, password, or other identifying code used by the department in establishing that a certification or claim for one or more weeks of benefits was made against the benefit account of the individual, together with documentation that payment was paid by a state warrant made to the order of the person $\underline{\mbox{\prime}}$ or by direct deposit via electronic means, or department issued debit card, constitutes prima facie evidence that the person claimed and received reemployment

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assistance unemployment benefits from the state.

(8) All records relating to investigations of reemployment assistance unemployment compensation fraud in the custody of the Department of Economic Opportunity or its tax collection service provider are available for examination by the Department of Law Enforcement, the state attorneys, or the Office of the Statewide Prosecutor in the prosecution of offenses under s. 817.568 or in proceedings brought under this chapter.

Section 6. Paragraphs (c), (d), and (f) of subsection (1) of section 443.091, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

443.091 Benefit eligibility conditions.-

- (1) An unemployed individual is eligible to receive benefits for any week only if the Department of Economic Opportunity finds that:
- (c) To make continued claims for benefits, she or he is reporting to the department in accordance with this paragraph and department agency rules, and participating in an initial skills review, as directed by the department agency. Department Agency rules may not conflict with s. 443.111(1)(b), which requires that each claimant continue to report regardless of any pending appeal relating to her or his eligibility or disqualification for benefits.
- 1. For each week of unemployment claimed, each report must, at a minimum, include the name, address, and telephone number of each prospective employer contacted, or the date the claimant reported to a one-stop career center, pursuant to paragraph (d).
- 2. The administrator or operator of the initial skills review shall notify the department agency when the individual completes the initial skills review and report the results of

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the review to the regional workforce board or the one-stop career center as directed by the workforce board. The department shall prescribe a numeric score on the initial skills review that demonstrates a minimal proficiency in workforce skills. The department, workforce board, or one-stop career center shall use the initial skills review to develop a plan for referring individuals to training and employment opportunities. The failure of the individual to comply with this requirement will result in the individual being determined ineligible for benefits for the week in which the noncompliance occurred and for any subsequent week of unemployment until the requirement is satisfied. However, this requirement does not apply if the individual is able to affirmatively attest to being unable to complete such review due to illiteracy or a language impediment or is exempt from the work registration requirement as set forth in paragraph (b).

- 3. Any individual that falls below the minimal proficiency score prescribed by the department in subparagraph 2. on the initial skills review shall be offered training opportunities and encouraged to participate in such training at no cost to the individual in order to improve his or her workforce skills to the minimal proficiency level.
- 4. The department shall coordinate with Workforce Florida, Inc., the workforce boards, and the one-stop career centers to identify, develop, and utilize best practices for improving the skills of individuals who chose to participate in training opportunities with a minimal proficiency score below the prescribed score prescribed in subparagraph 2.
 - 5. The department, in coordination with Workforce Florida,

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Inc., the workforce boards, and the one-stop career centers, shall evaluate the use, effectiveness, and costs associated with the training prescribed in subparagraph 3. and report its findings and recommendations for training and the use of best practices to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2013. ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows: Delete lines 10 - 13 and insert: conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.071, F.S.; specifying what constitutes prima facie evidence that the person claimed and received reemployment assistance from the state through transaction history and payment; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.091, F.S.; providing scoring requirements relating to initial skills reviews; providing for workforce training for certain eligible claimants; requiring the development and use of best practices; providing Delete line 43 and insert:

440.381, 440.42, 443.051, 443.111, 443.1113,