

Senate Bill 638

Sponsored by Senator ROSENBAUM; Senator BOQUIST

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Provides for payment of Oregon emergency benefits to qualifying individuals during emergency benefit period. Directs Director of Employment Department to stop payments of Oregon emergency benefits when total amount of payments would exceed specified amount if paid for succeeding week.

Sunsets on January 2, 2014.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to extension of unemployment insurance benefits; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

5 (a) **"Emergency benefit period" means a period beginning the first week, as defined in**
6 **ORS 657.010 (15), that begins after April 15, 2011, and ending on July 2, 2011, or on the date**
7 **that the Director of the Employment Department stops payments of Oregon emergency**
8 **benefits pursuant to section 2 of this 2011 Act.**

9 (b) **"Oregon emergency benefits" means unemployment benefits funded entirely by this**
10 **state and payable under ORS chapter 657 to individuals described in subsection (2) of this**
11 **section during the emergency benefit period.**

12 (c) **"Regular benefits" has the meaning given that term in ORS 657.321.**

13 (2) **During the emergency benefit period, an individual may receive Oregon emergency**
14 **benefits in an amount equal to the weekly benefit amount of the individual's most recent**
15 **regular unemployment benefit claim subject to the provisions of ORS chapter 657 if:**

16 (a) **The individual has exhausted regular benefits under ORS chapter 657;**

17 (b) **The individual is not eligible for any other unemployment benefits, including benefits**
18 **provided under any federal law extending benefits beyond those provided for as regular ben-**
19 **efits;**

20 (c) **The individual's benefit year expired on or after April 29, 2007; and**

21 (d) **The individual otherwise continues to meet the eligibility requirements for regular**
22 **benefits under ORS chapter 657.**

23 (3) **The maximum Oregon emergency benefits an individual may receive under this sec-**
24 **tion is 23 percent of the individual's most recent regular Oregon unemployment benefit**
25 **claim.**

26 (4) **The Employment Department may not charge an employer's account for Oregon**
27 **emergency benefits paid to an unemployed individual under this section. However, nothing**
28 **in this section may be construed to relieve this state, reimbursing political subdivisions, re-**
29 **imbursing nonprofit employers or reimbursing Indian tribes from paying into the Unem-**
30 **ployment Compensation Trust Fund an amount equal to the Oregon emergency benefits paid**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 to an unemployed individual under this section.

2 **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding section 1 of this 2011 Act, the Director of the Employment
3 Department shall immediately stop payments of Oregon emergency benefits when the total
4 amount of payments made pursuant to section 1 of this 2011 Act would exceed \$30 million if
5 paid for the succeeding calendar week.

6 **SECTION 3.** Sections 1 and 2 of this 2011 Act are repealed on January 2, 2014.

7 **SECTION 4.** This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
8 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect
9 on its passage.

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