

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Workforce

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Action Date: 05/04/15

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 04/27, 05/04

Vote:

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Knopp, Rosenbaum, Thatcher

Prepared By: Matthew Germer, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows claimant to be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits when outside the local labor market for purpose of applying for employment within the local labor market. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Opportunity for recoupment of benefits when back pay is awarded
- Eligibility of claimants seeking local employment by making trips outside the local labor market

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Under existing statute, an individual who leaves their local labor market for most of the week is considered unavailable for work and thus not eligible to receive an unemployment insurance benefit payment for the week. There is an exception for cases where the individual is travelling to find work in the area they are visiting; however, the exemption does not exist if they are travelling for a job interview for a position in their local labor market. House Bill 2440-A allows a claimant, without losing their unemployment insurance benefit, to travel outside of their normal labor market to apply for a job that is located in their normal labor market.