

Senate Bill 489

Sponsored by Senator GORSEK, Representative EVANS (at the request of Oregon School Employees Association)
(Presession filed.)

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**.

Eliminates restrictions on payment of unemployment insurance benefits to certain nonprofessional educational workers.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to unemployment insurance benefits for nonprofessional educational workers; creating new
3 provisions; amending ORS 657.221; and repealing section 5, chapter 407, Oregon Laws 2019.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 657.221 is amended to read:

6 657.221. *[(1)(a)]* (1) Benefits based on services performed in other than an instructional, research
7 or principal administrative capacity for an educational institution or institution of higher education
8 shall be payable to an individual in the same amount, on the same terms and subject to the same
9 conditions as benefits payable on the basis of other service subject to this chapter.

10 *[(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, benefits shall not be paid on the basis of*
11 *such services for any week of unemployment that commences during a period between two successive*
12 *academic years or terms if the individual performs such services in the first academic year or term and*
13 *there is a reasonable assurance that the individual will perform any such services in the second aca-*
14 *demical year or term for any institution.]*

15 *[(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this subsection, if benefits are denied to an individual for*
16 *any week under paragraph (b) of this subsection and such individual was not offered an opportunity*
17 *to perform such services for the institution for the second of such academic years or terms, such indi-*
18 *vidual shall be entitled, if otherwise eligible, to payment of benefits for each week for which the indi-*
19 *vidual filed a timely claim for benefits and for which benefits were denied solely by reason of*
20 *paragraph (b) of this subsection.]*

21 [(2) With respect to the application of this section, the following shall apply:]

22 *[(a) An employee who terminates an employee-employer relationship by electing not to accept an*
23 *offer of work for a subsequent academic year or term, other than by reason of labor negotiations or a*
24 *labor dispute in progress, shall be deemed to have voluntarily left work. The effective date of such*
25 *leaving shall be the date on which the individual notifies the institution of the election not to accept the*
26 *offer of work for the subsequent period, except that if such individual continues to work under the*
27 *terms of a previously existing contract or agreement, the effective date of leaving shall be the last day*
28 *worked for the institution.]*

29 *[(b) If the institution does not extend to the individual an offer of work or provide a reasonable*
30 *assurance the individual is expected to return to work for the institution following the period between*
31 *the academic years or terms, the separation from work shall be considered an involuntary leaving or*

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 *layoff.]*

2 *[(3) With respect to any services described in subsection (1)(a) of this section, compensation payable*
 3 *on the basis of such services shall be denied to any individual for any week that commences during*
 4 *an established and customary vacation period or holiday recess if such individual performs such ser-*
 5 *vices in the period immediately before such vacation period or holiday recess, and there is reasonable*
 6 *assurance that such individual will perform such services or any services described in ORS 657.167 (1)*
 7 *in the period immediately following such vacation period or holiday recess.]*

8 *[(4) With respect to any services described in subsection (1)(a) of this section, benefits based on such*
 9 *services shall be denied as specified in subsections (1) and (3) of this section to any individual who*
 10 *performed such services in an institution while in the employ of an education service district established*
 11 *by ORS chapter 334, providing 50 percent or more of the individual's time is in the performance of*
 12 *services in such institution.]*

13 *[(5) Subsections (1)(b), (3) and (4) of this section do not apply to benefits that are otherwise payable*
 14 *based on services consisting of:]*

15 *[(a) The operation or maintenance of facilities;]*

16 *[(b) Janitorial services;]*

17 *[(c) School food preparation and service;]*

18 *[(d) Early intervention services and support for such services; or]*

19 *[(e) Prekindergarten services and support for such services.]*

20 *[(6)]* **(2)** *[Subsections (1), (3) and (4) of this section apply]* **This section applies** only to service
 21 performed for an educational institution or institution of higher education operated by:

22 (a) A nonprofit employing unit;

23 (b) This state;

24 (c) A political subdivision of this state; or

25 (d) An Indian tribe.

26 **SECTION 2.** The amendments to ORS 657.221 by section 1 of this 2023 Act apply to weeks
 27 of unemployment beginning on or after the effective date of this 2023 Act.

28 **SECTION 3.** Section 5, chapter 407, Oregon Laws 2019, as amended by section 3, chapter
 29 79, Oregon Laws 2021, is repealed.

30 **SECTION 4.** (1) If the United States Secretary of Labor serves notice that any provisions
 31 of ORS 657.221, as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, or rules adopted under ORS 657.221,
 32 as amended by section 1 of this 2023 Act, fail to meet the requirements of the Social Security
 33 Act or the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the nonconforming provisions or rules shall no
 34 longer be of any force or effect.

35 (2) The Director of the Employment Department shall notify the Legislative Counsel as
 36 soon as practicable after receipt of the notice described in subsection (1) of this section.

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