

Submitter: Rob Frank

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

Senate Committee on Labor and Business,

I strongly oppose this bill. Besides the fact that Unemployment Insurance (UI) is a compulsory program that benefits some, is abused by many, and is never utilized by many, it is unconscionable that UI could be claimed while on strike. Refusing to work during an active labor dispute is not unemployed. The driving factor for employers to resolve labor disputes is to have workers go back to work to get the work done. The driving factor for employees to resolve labor disputes is to go back to work to earn a living; the incentive for employees to reasonably resolve labor disputes will be devastatingly undermined by this bill. In our rural area, our local school district is particularly concerned about the passage of this bill and the negative implications it could have in the event of a labor dispute. Implementation of this bill would place undue hardship on all employers of union affiliated employees. Life is full of hard choices. As an employee, choosing whether or not to strike to achieve a negotiating goal is a hard choice. As a legislator, choosing to implement policy that violates the intended purpose of UI is not a hard choice. Please choose to oppose this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Frank

Harney County Commissioner