

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB841

Hearing Date: Monday January 25, 2016
Committee On: Business and Labor
Introducer: Bloomfield
One Liner: Change provisions relating to maximum annual benefits and disqualification for benefits under the Employment Security Law

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Bloomfield, Crawford, Ebke, Harr, Johnson
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Chambers
Present Not Voting:	1	Senator Howard

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Dave Bloomfield
John Albin
Ron Sedlacek
Robert Hallstrom
Katie Thurber

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Department of Labor
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce
Nebraska Federation of Independent Business
Nebraska Department of Labor

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Sec. 1. establishes that for any benefit year beginning on or after October 1, 2017, an individual is entitled to benefits of twenty-six times his or her weekly benefit amount or one-third of his or her wages as employed per calendar quarter, whichever is less. However, when an individual is separated from employment under which the individual could have been determined disqualified (due to leaving work voluntarily without good cause or due to discharge for misconduct), the amount of benefits the individual is entitled to will be reduced as follows:

If the claimant was disqualified for benefits due to leaving work voluntarily without good cause, the total benefit amount is reduced by (i) two times the weekly benefit amount if the individual left work voluntarily to accept previously secured, full-time, insured work, which the individual does accept or (ii) thirteen times the weekly benefit amount if the individual left work voluntarily without good cause for any reason other than previously described.

If the claimant is separated from employment due to discharge for misconduct, the weekly benefit amount is reduced by fourteen times the weekly benefit amount.

Sec. 2. establishes that for any benefit year beginning on or after October 1, 2017, an individual is disqualified for benefits for the week in which the individual left work voluntarily without good cause and for all subsequent weeks until that individual has earned wages of at least six times his/her weekly benefit amount. Also, the individual must not have

left his/her most recent employer under disqualifying conditions.

A temporary employee of a temp firm is defined as leaving work voluntarily without good cause if that employee does not contact the firm for reassignment following completion of an assignment when advised to do so.

Sec. 3. repealer.

Burke Harr, Chairperson