

Consumer and Human Resources Committee 1

Amendment No. 1 to HB2512

**Eldridge
Signature of Sponsor**

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2481

House Bill No. 2512*

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-7-302(a)(4), is amended by deleting the language:

The administrator shall conduct random verification audits of one thousand five hundred (1,500) claimants weekly to determine if claimants are complying with the requirement of contacting at least three (3) employers per week or accessing services at a career center. The administrator shall disqualify any claimant receiving benefits who the administrator finds, as the result of a random audit or on information provided to the administrator, has provided false work search information for a period of not less than eight (8) benefit weeks. In determining whether the claimant is making a reasonable effort to secure work, the administrator shall consider the customary methods of obtaining work in the claimant's usual occupation or any occupation for which the claimant is reasonably qualified, the current condition of the labor market, and any attachment the claimant may have to a regular job;

and substituting instead the language:

The administrator shall verify whether claimants are complying with the requirement of contacting at least three (3) employers per week or accessing services at a career center. The administrator shall disqualify any claimant receiving benefits who the administrator finds has provided false work search information. In determining whether the claimant is making a reasonable effort to secure work, the administrator shall consider the customary methods of obtaining work in the claimant's usual occupation or

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occupation for which the claimant is reasonably qualified, the current condition of the labor market, and any attachment the claimant may have to a regular job;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-7-303(a)(1)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(A) If the administrator finds that the claimant has left the claimant's most recent work voluntarily without good cause connected with the claimant's work. The disqualification shall be for the duration of the ensuing period of unemployment and until the claimant has secured subsequent employment covered by the unemployment compensation law of this state, another state, or the United States, and was paid wages by the subsequent employment ten (10) times the claimant's weekly benefit amount. This disqualification shall not apply to a claimant who left the claimant's work in good faith to join the armed forces of the United States;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-7-303(a), is amended by adding the following appropriately designated subdivision:

() If the claimant is forced to leave the claimant's most recent work due to illness or injury not connected to the work, including, but not limited to, pregnancy. The leaving will be considered voluntary under this section and not a separation under subdivision (a)(2). The disqualification shall be for the duration of the ensuing period of unemployment and until the claimant has secured subsequent employment covered by an unemployment compensation law of this state, another state, or the United States, and was paid wages by the subsequent employment ten (10) times the claimant's weekly benefit amount;

SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act shall be severable.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to unemployment claims filed on or after that date.