
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8029

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators Moore and Anderson; by request of Employment Security Department

Read first time 02/05/92. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Rising unemployment places greater burdens on individuals
9 and families in Washington State; and

10 WHEREAS, Changes in the structure of the Washington economy mean
11 more workers will face the prospect of long-term unemployment; and

12 WHEREAS, Workers will face more frequent career changes which
13 require new skills and education; and

14 WHEREAS, Washington's citizens are deserving of the highest quality
15 unemployment, employment, and training services; and

1 WHEREAS, The Washington State Employment Security Department is
2 facing a funding crisis; and

3 WHEREAS, Federal funding for employment services has fallen in real
4 terms during nine of the last eleven years; and

5 WHEREAS, Funds are no longer allocated to cover increases in the
6 costs due to inflation; and

7 WHEREAS, Increased costs due to changes in state law are no longer
8 funded; and

9 WHEREAS, These shortfalls exist in spite of the fact that funds
10 held at the federal level exceed amounts required by the states to
11 provide quality services; and

12 WHEREAS, Washington State employers provide funding for programs
13 for the unemployed through payment of the Federal Unemployment Tax; and

14 WHEREAS, Revenue from the Federal Unemployment Tax can only be
15 expended for the administration of Employment Security programs; and

16 WHEREAS, Each year one billion dollars more is collected at the
17 federal level than is allocated to the states for program services; and

18 WHEREAS, Funds to administer Employment Security activities are
19 held hostage at the federal level in an effort to mask the federal
20 budget deficit;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress
22 release tax moneys paid by Washington State employers to support
23 Employment Security programs.

24 BE IT RESOLVED, That Employment Security programs be funded at a
25 level that will guarantee for Washington citizens ready access to
26 quality programs to assist them in their return to stable employment
27 and provide partial replacement of lost wages while unemployed; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
29 transmitted to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United
30 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the

1 House of Representatives, and to each member of Congress from the State
2 of Washington.