

2 **SB 5920** - S AMD

3 By Senators Vognild and Newhouse

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The employment security department shall  
8 undertake a pilot project to encourage workers drawing unemployment  
9 insurance benefits to seek employment opportunities by allowing a  
10 control group in one job service center to keep a greater portion of  
11 their weekly benefits when engaged in part-time or temporary  
12 employment. It is the intent of this project to return unemployment  
13 insurance beneficiaries to full-time employment in the job marketplace  
14 in order to positively impact the unemployment insurance trust fund.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** For the purposes of section 1 of this act,  
16 the employment security department shall designate:

17 (1) The job service center in which the pilot project is to be  
18 undertaken; and

19 (2) The number of participants and the criteria for participation  
20 in the project.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** For the purposes of the pilot project  
22 created under section 1 of this act, the following requirements for  
23 defining "unemployment" and level of unemployment insurance benefit  
24 deductions is as follows:

25 (1)(a) An individual shall be deemed to be "unemployed" in any week  
26 during which the individual performs no services and with respect to  
27 which no remuneration is payable to the individual, or in any week of  
28 less than full time work, if the remuneration payable to the individual  
29 with respect to such week is less than one and one-half times the  
30 individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars. The  
31 commissioner shall prescribe regulations applicable to unemployed  
32 individuals making such distinctions in the procedures as to such types  
33 of unemployment as the commissioner deems necessary.

1 (b) An individual shall be deemed not to be "unemployed" during any  
2 week which falls totally within a period during which the individual,  
3 pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment  
4 contract, is employed full time in accordance with a definition of full  
5 time contained in the agreement or contract, and for which compensation  
6 for full time work is payable. This subsection may not be applied  
7 retroactively to an individual who had no guarantee of work at the  
8 start of such period and subsequently is provided additional work by  
9 the employer; and

10 (2) If an eligible individual is available for work for less than  
11 a full week, he or she shall be paid his or her weekly benefit amount  
12 reduced by one-seventh of such amount for each day that he or she is  
13 unavailable for work. However, if he or she is unavailable for work  
14 for three days or more of a week, he or she shall be considered  
15 unavailable for the entire week.

16 Each eligible individual who is unemployed in any week shall be  
17 paid with respect to such week a benefit in an amount equal to his or  
18 her weekly benefit amount less sixty-six and two-thirds percent of that  
19 part of the remuneration, if any, payable to him or her with respect to  
20 such week which is in excess of fifteen dollars. Such benefit, if not  
21 a multiple of one dollar, shall be reduced to the next lower multiple  
22 of one dollar.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The employment security department shall  
24 report to the legislature on the impact of the pilot project created  
25 under section 1 of this act by December 31, 1996. The department shall  
26 report on:

- 27 (1) The impact of the project on the unemployment insurance trust  
28 fund; and  
29 (2) Individuals participating in the project.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or  
31 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium  
32 ending June 30, 1995, from the unemployment insurance funds provided  
33 under RCW 50.24.014 designated for use by the joint task force on  
34 unemployment insurance created under section 22, chapter 483, Laws of  
35 1993, to the employment security department for the purposes of this  
36 act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 6.**    This act applies to weeks of unemployment  
2 beginning after January 1, 1995.

3        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    This act shall expire July 1, 1997.

4        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 8.**    If any part of this act is found to be in  
5 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to  
6 the allocation of federal funds to the state or the eligibility of  
7 employers in this state for federal unemployment tax credits, the  
8 conflicting part of this act is hereby declared to be inoperative  
9 solely to the extent of the conflict, and such finding or determination  
10 shall not affect the operation of the remainder of this act. The rules  
11 under this act shall meet federal requirements that are a necessary  
12 condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state or the granting  
13 of federal unemployment tax credits to employers in this state."

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17        On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "deductions;" strike the  
18 remainder of the title and insert "creating new sections; making an  
19 appropriation; and providing an expiration date."

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