

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6217

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON LABOR & COMMERCE, JANUARY 24, 1994

Brief Description: Requiring the joint task force on unemployment insurance to study additional issues.

SPONSORS: Senators Newhouse, Vognild, Moore, Amondson, Prentice, Sutherland, Fraser, McAuliffe and Winsley

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & COMMERCE

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6217 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Moore, Chairman; Prentice, Vice Chairman; Amondson, Deccio, Fraser, McAuliffe, Newhouse, Pelz, Prince, Sellar, Sutherland, Vognild and Wojahn.

Staff: Patrick Woods (786-7430)

Hearing Dates: January 18, 1994; January 24, 1994

BACKGROUND:

In 1993 the Legislature established the Joint Task Force on Unemployment Insurance in order to undertake an indepth review of Washington's unemployment insurance program. The task force is composed of four members of the House of Representatives, four senators and four representatives of labor and business, respectively. The task force in its report to the Legislature outlined a series of recommendations regarding policies and administration of unemployment insurance in Washington State.

The task force has requested that it be reauthorized through 1994 in order to: undertake a more indepth review of targeted issues; work collaboratively with the Employment Security Department in implementation of task force recommendation; and assist the department in responding to federal initiatives and economic change.

SUMMARY:

The Joint Task Force on Unemployment Insurance is reauthorized in order to: (1) undertake more indepth review of targeted issues concerning unemployment insurance; (2) work collaboratively with the Employment Security Department in implementation of task force recommendations; and (3) assist the department in responding to federal initiatives and economic change, in particular the new claimant profile requirement which must be implemented by 1994.

The task force is scheduled to report to the Legislature by December 31, 1994.

EFFECT OF PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE:

The date of the task force report to the Legislature is changed to January 15, 1995.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: requested January 14, 1994

TESTIMONY FOR:

The task force is needed to continue the indepth review of unemployment insurance issues.

TESTIMONY AGAINST: None

TESTIFIED: PRO: Jan Gee, Washington Retail Association; Patrick Jones, Harvey's; Julie Gavrill, Ben Bridge; Kevin Groff, Safeway; Norm Raffaek, Weyerhaeuser