
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8012

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Newhouse, Heavey, Deccio, Hale, Palmer, Franklin, Fraser, Prentice, Prince and Oke; by request of Joint Task Force on Unemployment Insurance

Read first time 01/27/95. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce & Trade.

1 TO THE HONORABLE BILL CLINTON, 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, The Federal Internal Revenue Code currently requires
9 individuals to pay income taxes on unemployment benefit payments that
10 they have received; and

11 WHEREAS, The Taxation of Unemployment Insurance Benefits impacts
12 over eight million persons annually and reduces their income on average
13 by seventeen percent for a total of three billion dollars; and

14 WHEREAS, This Taxation of Unemployment Benefits is an onerous
15 burden on individuals that are generally experiencing a dramatic
16 reduction in income due to their loss of employment; and

17 WHEREAS, The Taxation of Unemployment Benefits undermines the
18 purpose of Unemployment Insurance, by dramatically reducing the amount
19 of moneys available to workers and their families that are experiencing
20 a loss of wages due to no fault of their own. In addition, local

1 economies are adversely impacted due to the loss of income in the
2 community; and

3 WHEREAS, The Washington State Unemployment Insurance Task Force,
4 comprised of Business, Labor, and Legislative members, in their 1995
5 Report, found the Taxation of Unemployment Insurance Benefits to be an
6 unfair burden on workers;

7 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectively request that the
8 Congress of the United States enact legislation removing Unemployment
9 Insurance Benefits from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code.

10 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
11 transmitted to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United
12 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
13 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
14 Washington.

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