

S 2831

Helping Unemployed Workers Act

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Dec 3, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S12325-12327)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S12325-12327) (Dec 3, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/2831>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** RI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Dec 3, 2009
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Dec 4, 2009
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Dec 8, 2009
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Dec 17, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 3, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 6556	Related bill	Dec 17, 2010: Referred to House Transportation and Infrastructure
111 S 3981	Related bill	Dec 1, 2010: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8343)
111 S 3990	Related bill	Nov 30, 2010: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
111 HR 6419	Related bill	Nov 18, 2010: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Failed by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 258 - 154 (Roll no. 579).
111 HR 5647	Related bill	Oct 13, 2010: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
111 S 3706	Related bill	Aug 4, 2010: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
111 HR 4213	Related bill	Jul 22, 2010: Became Public Law No: 111-205.
111 HR 5618	Related bill	Jul 14, 2010: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 459.
111 S 3551	Related bill	Jun 30, 2010: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
111 HR 5453	Related bill	May 28, 2010: Referred to House Oversight and Government Reform
111 S 3420	Related bill	May 25, 2010: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4221-4222)
111 HR 4851	Related bill	Apr 15, 2010: Became Public Law No: 111-157.
111 S 3153	Related bill	Mar 25, 2010: Motion to proceed to consideration of measure tabled in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 59 - 40. Record Vote Number: 106. (consideration: CR S2094)
111 S 3173	Related bill	Mar 25, 2010: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
111 HR 4707	Related bill	Mar 8, 2010: Referred to the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support.
111 HR 4691	Related bill	Mar 2, 2010: Became Public Law No: 111-144.
111 HR 4183	Related bill	Dec 8, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support.
111 HR 4135	Related bill	Nov 19, 2009: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
111 HR 3548	Related bill	Nov 6, 2009: Became Public Law No: 111-92.
111 HR 3756	Related bill	Oct 7, 2009: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
111 S 1699	Related bill	Sep 23, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9745)
111 S 1646	Related bill	Aug 7, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9080-9081)
111 S 1647	Related bill	Aug 7, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9082-9083)
111 HR 3404	Related bill	Jul 31, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Helping Unemployed Workers Act - Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 with respect to the state-established individual emergency unemployment compensation account (EUCA), as amended by the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 and the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act. Extends the final date for entering a federal-state agreement under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program through December 1, 2010. Postpones the termination of the program until May 31, 2011.

Amends the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act to extend until January 1, 2011: (1) federal-state agreements increasing regular unemployment compensation payments to individuals; and (2) requirements that federal payments to states cover 100% of EUC.

Amends the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 to exempt weeks of unemployment between enactment of this Act and May 30, 2011, from the prohibition in the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 against federal matching payments to a state for the first week in an individual's eligibility period for which extended compensation or sharable regular compensation is paid if the state law provides for payment of regular compensation to an individual for his or her first week of otherwise compensable unemployment. (Thus allows temporary federal matching for the first week of extended benefits for states with no waiting period.)

Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to modify EUC eligibility requirements to disregard an individual's right to regular compensation for a subsequent benefit year when determining such individual's eligibility to receive EUC if such individual: (1) has exhausted his or her rights to regular compensation for any benefit year; and (2) does not file a claim for such regular compensation.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow an exclusion from gross income in 2010 for up to \$2,400 of unemployment compensation.

Defines "short-time compensation program," for Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) purposes, as one in which: (1) participation of an employer is voluntary; (2) an employer reduces the number of hours worked by employees through certifying that such reductions are in lieu of temporary layoffs; (3) an employee whose workweek that has been reduced by at least 10% is eligible for unemployment compensation; (4) an eligible employee may participate in an employer-sponsored job skills training program; and (5) an employer is required to certify that continuation of employee health and retirement benefits will not be affected by participation in the program.

Directs the Secretary of Labor to make payments to a state's unemployment compensation trust fund for the payment of unemployment compensation if the Secretary approves a state's application for certification to operate a short-time compensation program that requires the maintenance of health and retirement employee benefits.

Requires the Secretary to study and report to Congress and the President on the EUC program.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 3, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
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