S 2532

Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Labor and Employment
Introduced: Jun 25, 2014
Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jun 25, 2014)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/2532

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]
Party: Democratic • **State:** RI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]	R · NV		Jun 25, 2014
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 8, 2014
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Jul 8, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 25, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 4970	Identical bill	**Nov 17, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
113 HR 4415	Related bill	**Jun 13, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
113 HR 4550	Related bill	**Jun 13, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
113 S 2149	Related bill	**Mar 25, 2014:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 335.
113 S 2148	Related bill	**Mar 24, 2014:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 331.
113 S 2097	Related bill	**Mar 10, 2014:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 318.
113 S 2077	Related bill	**Mar 5, 2014:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 315.
113 HR 3824	Related bill	**Feb 28, 2014:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H2068-2069)
113 S 1845	Related bill	**Feb 6, 2014:** Motion by Senator Reid to reconsider the vote by which second cloture was not invoked on the bill (Record Vote No. 24) made in Senate. (consideration: CR S794)
113 HR 3773	Related bill	**Dec 16, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
113 S 1797	Related bill	**Dec 11, 2013:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 259.
113 HR 3546	Related bill	**Nov 21, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.
113 S 1747	Related bill	**Nov 20, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Jun 25, 2014)

Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2014 - Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (SAA, 2008) to extend emergency unemployment compensation (EUC) payments for eligible individuals to weeks of employment ending on or before five months after enactment of this Act.

Amends the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act to extend until five months after enactment of this Act 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 such Act and 11 months after enactment of this Act from the prohibition in the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (FSEUCA 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 FSEUCA of 1970 to postpone similarly from December 31, 2013, to five months after enactment of this Act, termination of the period during which a state may determine its "on" and "off" indicators according to specified temporary substitutions in its formula.

Amends the SAA, 2008 to appropriate funds out of the employment security administration account through FY2015 to assist states in providing reemployment and eligibility assessment activities.

Requires the provision of such activities to an individual, at a minimum, within a time period after he or she begins to receive Tier-1 EUC benefits, and if applicable, again within a time period after he or she begins to receive Tier-3 EUC benefits. Requires the Secretary of Labor to determine appropriate time periods.

Specifies the purposes of the activities, namely to:

- better link the unemployed with the overall workforce system by bringing individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits in for personalized assessments and referrals to reemployment services; and
- provide them with early access to specific strategies that can help get them back into the workforce faster, including through: (1) the development of a reemployment plan, (2) provision of access to relevant labor market information, (3) provision of access to information about industry-recognized credentials that are regionally relevant or nationally portable, (4) provision of referrals to reemployment services and training, and (5) an assessment of the individual's on-going eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits.

Amends the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act to extend through December 31, 2014, the temporary increase in extended unemployment benefits.

Makes a change in application of a certain requirement (nonreduction rule) to a state that has entered a federal-state EUC agreement, under which the federal government would reimburse the state's unemployment compensation agency making EUC payments to individuals who have exhausted all rights to regular unemployment compensation under state or federal law and meet specified other criteria.

(Under the nonreduction rule such an agreement does not apply with respect to a state whose method for computing

regular unemployment compensation under state law has been modified to make the average weekly unemployment compensation benefit paid on or after June 2, 2010, less than what would have been paid before June 2, 2010.)

Declares that the nonreduction rule shall not apply to a state which has enacted a law before June 30, 2014, that, upon taking effect, would violate the nonreduction rule. Allows a state whose agreement was terminated, however, to enter into a subsequent federal-state EUC agreement on or after enactment of this Act if, taking into account this inapplicability of the nonreduction rule, it would otherwise meet the requirements for an EUC agreement. (Thus allows such a subsequent EUC agreement to permit payment of less than the average weekly unemployment compensation benefit paid on or after June 2, 2010.)

Prohibits the use of federal funds to: (1) make payments of unemployment compensation to any individual whose adjusted gross income in the preceding year was at least $1 million; or (2) determine whether or not this prohibition applies to them.

Requires the Comptroller General (GAO) to:

- study the use of work suitability requirements to strengthen them to ensure that unemployment insurance benefits are being provided to individuals who are actively looking for work and truly want to return to the labor force; and
- brief Congress on the ongoing study, including preliminary recommendations for appropriate legislation and administrative action.

Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Internal Revenue Code to revise the applicable percentages for determining minimum funding standards for single-employer defined benefit pension plans (funding stabilization). Exempts plans providing accelerated benefit distributions from the application of such standards.

Amends the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 to extend through FY2024 the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to collect customs user fees for the processing of certain merchandise.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 25, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
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