

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6392

---

---

As Reported by Senate Committee On:  
Commerce & Labor, February 7, 2014

**Title:** An act relating to unemployment benefits.

**Brief Description:** Establishing community service standards for individuals receiving unemployment benefits.

**Sponsors:** Senator Baumgartner.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Commerce & Labor: 2/07/14 [DPS].

---

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6392 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Holmquist Newbry, Chair; Braun, Vice Chair; Hewitt, King and Kohl-Welles.

**Staff:** Mac Nicholson (786-7445)

**Background:** Unemployment benefits are available for eligible individuals who become unemployed through no fault of their own. An individual receiving benefits must be able and available to work and actively seeking suitable work.

Individuals required to look for work in order to maintain eligibility must meet certain job search requirements each week. Job search requirements can be met by making at least three employer contacts, three in-person job search activities, or a combination of the two that result in at least three total job search activities.

**Summary of Bill:** The bill as referred to committee not considered.

**Summary of Bill (Recommended Substitute):** For claims with an effective date on or after July 1, 2014, two hours of community service may be substituted for one job search activity.

**Appropriation:** None.

---

*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 5, 2014.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: This bill has been changed from a requirement to an optional activity that will benefit the community. This bill helps individuals show what they can do and what they are worth. Organizations could use additional volunteers to help meet needs.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Marissa Martz, Kristen Hoffmann, citizens.