

1 5920 AAS 2/15/94 S5289.2

2 **SB 5920** - S AMD - 000229

3 By Senators Vognild and Newhouse

4 ADOPTED 2/15/94

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The employment security department shall
8 undertake a pilot project to encourage workers drawing unemployment
9 insurance benefits to seek employment opportunities by allowing a
10 control group in one job service center to keep a greater portion of
11 their weekly benefits when engaged in part-time or temporary
12 employment. It is the intent of this project to return unemployment
13 insurance beneficiaries to full-time employment in the job marketplace
14 in order to positively impact the unemployment insurance trust fund.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** For the purposes of section 1 of this act,
16 the employment security department shall designate:

17 (1) The job service center in which the pilot project is to be
18 undertaken; and

19 (2) The number of participants and the criteria for participation
20 in the project.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** For the purposes of the pilot project
22 created under section 1 of this act, the following requirements for
23 defining "unemployment" and level of unemployment insurance benefit
24 deductions is as follows:

25 (1)(a) An individual shall be deemed to be "unemployed" in any week
26 during which the individual performs no services and with respect to
27 which no remuneration is payable to the individual, or in any week of
28 less than full time work, if the remuneration payable to the individual
29 with respect to such week is less than one and one-half times the
30 individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars. The
31 commissioner shall prescribe regulations applicable to unemployed
32 individuals making such distinctions in the procedures as to such types
33 of unemployment as the commissioner deems necessary.

1 (b) An individual shall be deemed not to be "unemployed" during any
2 week which falls totally within a period during which the individual,
3 pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or individual employment
4 contract, is employed full time in accordance with a definition of full
5 time contained in the agreement or contract, and for which compensation
6 for full time work is payable. This subsection may not be applied
7 retroactively to an individual who had no guarantee of work at the
8 start of such period and subsequently is provided additional work by
9 the employer; and

10 (2) If an eligible individual is available for work for less than
11 a full week, he or she shall be paid his or her weekly benefit amount
12 reduced by one-seventh of such amount for each day that he or she is
13 unavailable for work. However, if he or she is unavailable for work
14 for three days or more of a week, he or she shall be considered
15 unavailable for the entire week.

16 Each eligible individual who is unemployed in any week shall be
17 paid with respect to such week a benefit in an amount equal to his or
18 her weekly benefit amount less sixty-six and two-thirds percent of that
19 part of the remuneration, if any, payable to him or her with respect to
20 such week which is in excess of fifteen dollars. Such benefit, if not
21 a multiple of one dollar, shall be reduced to the next lower multiple
22 of one dollar.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The employment security department shall
24 report to the legislature on the impact of the pilot project created
25 under section 1 of this act by December 31, 1996. The department shall
26 report on:

27 (1) The impact of the project on the unemployment insurance trust
28 fund; and

29 (2) Individuals participating in the project.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, or
31 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium
32 ending June 30, 1995, from the unemployment insurance funds provided
33 under RCW 50.24.014 designated for use by the joint task force on
34 unemployment insurance created under section 22, chapter 483, Laws of
35 1993, to the employment security department for the purposes of this
36 act.

