

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3148

To amend the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act to require States to impose certain requirements on individuals seeking pandemic unemployment assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 12, 2021

Mr. JACOBS of New York (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. MANN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act to require States to impose certain requirements on individuals seeking pandemic unemployment assistance, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Help Wanted Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. REINSTATING STATE WORK REQUIREMENTS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of division
7 A of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security

1 Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(b)) is amended by adding at the end
2 the following:

3 **“SEC. 2119. STATE WORK REQUIREMENTS.**

4 “As a condition of any agreement under section
5 2102(f), section 2104(a), or section 2107(a), a State may
6 not modify its unemployment compensation law and poli-
7 cies with respect to work search requirements under the
8 authority of section 4102(b) of the Families First
9 Coronavirus Response Act (26 U.S.C. 3304 note).”.

10 (b) PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.—Sec-
11 tion 2107(a)(7) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Eco-
12 nomic Security Act (15 U.S.C. 9025(a)(7)) is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 “(7) ACTIVELY SEEKING WORK.—For purposes
15 of paragraph (2)(D), the term ‘actively seeking
16 work’ means, with respect to any individual, that
17 such individual—

18 “(A) is registered for employment services
19 in such a manner and to such extent as pre-
20 scribed by the State agency;

21 “(B) has engaged in an active search for
22 employment that is appropriate in light of the
23 employment available in the labor market, the
24 individual’s skills and capabilities, and includes
25 a number of employer contacts that is con-

1 sistent with the standards communicated to the
2 individual by the State;

3 “(C) has maintained a record of such work
4 search, including employers contacted, method
5 of contact, and date contacted; and

6 “(D) when requested, has provided such
7 work search record to the State agency.”.

8 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2 of the
9 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act is
10 amended in the table of contents by inserting after the
11 item related to section 2118 the following:

 “Sec. 2119. State work requirements”.

12 **SEC. 3. VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE.**

13 Section 2102(a)(3)(A)(ii)(I) of the Coronavirus Aid,
14 Relief, and Economic Security Act (15 U.S.C.
15 9021(a)(3)(A)(ii)(I)) is amended by striking item (ii).

16 **SEC. 4. SAFETY CONCERNS.**

17 Section 2102(a)(3)(B) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief,
18 and Economic Security Act (15 U.S.C. 9021(a)(3)(B)) is
19 amended—

20 (1) in clause (i), by striking “or”;

21 (2) in clause (ii), by striking the period and in-
22 serting “; or”; and

23 (3) by inserting at the end the following:

1 “(iii) an individual who declines to
2 work on the basis of safety concerns re-
3 lated to COVID-19.”.

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