

SCS HB 196 -- JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

This bill changes the laws regarding the reporting requirements for unemployment benefits, requires the Department of Economic Development to establish the Missouri Works Training Program, and establishes the Missouri Works Job Training Joint Legislative Oversight Committee.

The bill repeals the provision requiring a claimant for unemployment benefits to report in person to an office of the Division of Employment Security within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations at least once every four weeks in order to be eligible for continued benefits and the provision exempting a claimant from reporting once every four weeks in person if he or she resides in a county with an unemployment rate of 10% or more and in which the county seat is more than 40 miles from the nearest division office. The bill specifies that a claimant for unemployment benefits may satisfy the reporting requirements by reporting by Internet communication or any other means deemed acceptable by the division.

The Department of Economic Development is required to establish the Missouri Works Training Program to assist qualified companies in the training of employees in new jobs and the retraining or upgrading of the skills of full-time employees in retained jobs. The program is to be funded through appropriations to the Missouri Works Job Development Fund, formerly the Missouri Job Development Fund; the Missouri Works Community College New Jobs Training Fund, formerly the Missouri Community College Job Training Program Fund; and the Missouri Works Community College Job Retention Training Fund, formerly the Missouri Community College Job Retention Training Program Fund. The department must prioritize funding to assist qualified companies in targeted industries. The bill specifies the requirements for a qualified company to receive benefits, how the benefits will be calculated, and the penalties for failing to meet any requirements under the program.

The provisions regarding the Missouri Job Training Joint Legislative Oversight Committee are repealed and the Missouri Works Job Training Joint Legislative Oversight Committee is established consisting of three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker and three members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tem. An annual report must be submitted by October 1 to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tem of the Senate regarding all assistance provided to industries under these provisions during the preceding fiscal year.

The provisions of the bill regarding the Missouri Works Training

Program will expire July 1, 2019.

The provisions of the bill regarding reporting requirements for unemployment benefits contain an emergency clause.