

SB 702 -- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS

SPONSOR: Munzlinger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Workforce Standards and Development by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations by a vote of 6 to 1.

Currently, when an individual or employer repays the state for overpayment of unemployment compensation benefits, payments made toward the penalty amount due are credited to the Special Employment Security Fund. This bill requires 15% of the total amount of benefits fraudulently obtained to be deposited into the Unemployment Compensation fund and the remaining penalty amount to be credited to the Special Employment Security Fund.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is important because it keeps Missouri in compliance with federal regulations. Supporters also say that employers would lose certification and access to tax credits if they are not compliant.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Munzlinger; Associated Industries of Missouri; and the Missouri Department of Labor.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.