



## Legislative and Legal Update February 2014

### S. 1845: Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act

\*This act is currently in the Senate. Having failed cloture last week, it has a limited chance of passage.

The summary below was written by the Congressional Research Service, which is a nonpartisan division of the Library of Congress.

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12/17/2013--Introduced.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act - Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to extend emergency unemployment compensation (EUC) payments for eligible individuals to weeks of employment ending on or before April 1, 2014.

Amends the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act to extend until March 31, 2014, requirements that federal payments to states cover 100% of EUC.

Amends the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2008 to exempt weeks of unemployment between enactment of this Act and September 30, 2014, from the prohibition in the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (FSEUCA of 1970) against federal matching payments to a state for the first week in an individual's eligibility period for which extended compensation or sharable regular compensation is paid if the state law provides for payment of regular compensation to an individual for his or her first week of otherwise compensable unemployment.

(Thus allows temporary federal matching for the first week of extended benefits for states with no waiting period.)

Amends the FSEUCA of 1970 to postpone similarly from December 31, 2013, to March 31, 2014, termination of the period during which a state may determine its "on" and "off" indicators according to specified temporary substitutions in its formula.

Amends the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to appropriate funds out of the employment security administration account through the first quarter of FY2015 to assist states in providing reemployment and eligibility assessment activities.

Amends the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act to extend through March 31, 2014, the temporary increase in extended unemployment benefits.

Makes a change in application of a certain requirement (nonreduction rule) to a state that has:

(1) entered a federal-state EUC agreement, under which the federal government would reimburse the state's unemployment compensation agency making EUC payments to individuals who have

exhausted all rights to regular unemployment compensation under state or federal law and meet specified other criteria; and

(2) enacted a law before December 1, 2013, that, upon taking effect, would violate the nonreduction rule.

(Under the nonreduction rule such an agreement does not apply with respect to a state whose method for computing regular unemployment compensation under state law has been modified to make the average weekly unemployment compensation benefit paid on or after June 2, 2010, less than what would have been paid before June 2, 2010.)

Declares that the nonreduction rule shall not apply to a state which has enacted a law before December 1, 2013, that, upon taking effect, would violate the nonreduction rule.

Allows such a state, however, to enter into a subsequent federal-state EUC agreement on or after enactment of this Act if, taking into account this inapplicability of the nonreduction rule, it would otherwise meet the requirements for an EUC agreement.

(Thus allows such a subsequent EUC agreement to permit payment of less than the average weekly unemployment compensation benefit paid on or after June 2, 2010.)

## H.R. 2575: Save American Workers Act of 2013

\*\*This Act is currently at the house. Still in preliminary stages.

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6/28/2013--Introduced.

Save American Workers Act of 2013 - Amends the Internal Revenue Code, as amended by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, to redefine "full-time employee," for purposes of the mandate requiring employers to provide health care coverage for their employees, as an employee who is employed on average at least 40 hours of service a week (currently, at least 30 hours of service a week).

## New Website unveiled for Veteran sand their families

Just unveiled today for Montana the 'Network of Care,' a one-stop portal for veterans and their families to identify services in their communities.

<http://www.montana.networkofcare.org/>

The Network of Care for Service Members, Veterans & Their Families is a one-stop-shop for virtually all

services, information, support, advocacy, and much more. This is an anonymous site which brings together VA, DOD, State and County services onto one site.

This public service is an attempt to bring together critical information for all components of the veterans' community, including veterans, family members, active-duty personnel, reservists, members of the National Guard, employers, service providers, and the community at large.

HOME PAGE ONE CLICK AWAY for information on

- Crisis Intervention
- TriCare Information
- Housing
- Military Services
- Employment
- Veterans Services

You also have the ability to:

--Find local service providers by topic

--Look through a library of current and archived topics

--Legislate- Want your voice to be heard on issues affecting service members, veterans and their family members? Contact your area's elected officials using our fast and easy email system.

--Links to other websites for state and national nonprofits and government agencies related to military benefits and support for service members, veterans and family members

--Assisted Devices a database lists more than 21,000 currently available products from more than 8,000 companies. The database also offers information on non-commercial prototypes, customized and one-of-a-kind products, and do-it-yourself designs. IE Low vision, communication, daily living assistance, recreation, seating and more!