

HCS HB 2614 -- EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

SPONSOR: Casteel

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Workforce and Infrastructure Development by a vote of 11 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Regulatory Oversight by a vote of 6 to 2 and 1 present.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2614.

This bill adds to the reasons a claimant is disqualified for unemployment compensation by adding that if the designated representative of the Division of Employment Security within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations finds that a claimant failed to appear for a scheduled job interview or skills test three times during the same unemployment cycle. The bill also revises the method of notifying the claimant by deleting the current requirement of certified mail and referring to notification in writing or by email. The Division must establish a method allowing employers to report by email or telephone individuals who do not accept or respond to offers or do not appear for scheduled interviews or tests.

This bill is similar to HB 2034 (2024).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the structure already exists to support this. Sometimes people just give up and don't notify Employment Security, but a phone call or an email is simple courtesy.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Casteel; Missouri Retailers Association; Missouri Grocers Association; and Opportunity Solutions Project.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.