FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1356

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BOGGS.

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 288, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to employment compensation work search activities.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 288, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be 2 known as section 288.057, to read as follows:

288.057. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Promoting a **2 Return to Work Act of 2025**".

2. Beginning on and after January 1, 2026, in order for claimants to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits for any week, in addition to all other eligibility requirements under this chapter, claimants shall complete at least four work search activities during the week for which a claimant is applying for benefits. Failure to complete the required number of work search activities shall disqualify a claimant from collecting benefits for that week and the week of ineligibility shall be calculated in a manner consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

10 **3.** For the purpose of compliance with the provisions of this section, the following 11 actions shall constitute acceptable work search activities and each action shall be 12 considered a single work search:

- 13 (1) Submitting a resume to an employer;
- 14 (2) Completing and submitting a job application to an employer;
- 15 (3) Attending and completing an interview with an employer;
- 16 (4) Attending a job fair; or
- 17 (5) Participating in job skill training at a workforce center.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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4. The division of employment security may promulgate all necessary rules and 18 19 regulations for the administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that 20 term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the 21 22 provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 23 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly 24 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul 25 a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority 26 and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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