

2016 -- S 2850

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016

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A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - EMPLOYMENT SECURITY -
BENEFITS

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: March 23, 2016

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-44-12 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-44 entitled
2 "Employment Security - Benefits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **28-44-12. Availability and registration for work.** -- (a) An individual shall not be
4 eligible for benefits for any week of his or her partial or total unemployment unless during that
5 week he or she is physically able to work full-time and be available for full-time work. To prove
6 availability for work, every individual partially or totally unemployed shall register for work and
7 shall:

8 (1) File a claim for benefits within any time limits, with any frequency, and in any
9 manner, in person or in writing, as the director may prescribe;

10 (2) Respond whenever duly called for work through the employment office; and

11 (3) Make an active, independent search for suitable full-time work.

12 (b) If an unemployed individual has been determined to be likely to exhaust regular
13 benefits and to need reemployment services pursuant to a profiling system established by the
14 director, the individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the
15 individual participates in reemployment services, such as job search assistance services, unless
16 the director determines that:

17 (1) The individual has completed those services; or

18 (2) There is justifiable cause for the individual's failure to participate in those services.

1 (c) An individual employed by a private contractor to an educational institution,
2 including, but not limited to, bus drivers, aides or monitors, cafeteria workers, or other
3 individuals subject to an agreement which provides "reasonable assurance" of a return to work
4 within twelve (12) weeks, shall not be subject to disqualification or reduction of benefits pursuant
5 to this section.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS - EMPLOYMENT SECURITY -
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1 This act would provide that those individuals, who are subject to an agreement for
2 "reasonable assurance" to return to work within twelve (12) weeks and are employed by a private
3 contractor to an educational institution, will not be subject to disqualification or reduction of
4 unemployment benefits.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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