

**As Introduced**

**130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014**

**H. B. No. 55**

**Representatives Pillich, Terhar**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Ramos, Antonio, Hagan, R., O'Brien, Cera,  
Strahorn, Phillips, Reece, Fedor, Clyde, Lundy, Gerberry, Ashford, Buchy,  
Duffey**

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**A B I L L**

To amend section 4141.29 of the Revised Code to 1  
permit persons who quit work to accompany the 2  
person's spouse on a military transfer to be 3  
eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4141.29 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 4141.29.** Each eligible individual shall receive benefits 7  
as compensation for loss of remuneration due to involuntary total 8  
or partial unemployment in the amounts and subject to the 9  
conditions stipulated in this chapter. 10

(A) No individual is entitled to a waiting period or benefits 11  
for any week unless the individual: 12

(1) Has filed a valid application for determination of 13  
benefit rights in accordance with section 4141.28 of the Revised 14  
Code; 15

(2) Has made a claim for benefits in accordance with section 16

4141.28 of the Revised Code; 17

(3) Has registered at an employment office or other 18  
registration place maintained or designated by the director of job 19  
and family services. Registration shall be made in accordance with 20  
the time limits, frequency, and manner prescribed by the director. 21

(4)(a)(i) Is able to work and available for suitable work 22  
and, except as provided in division (A)(4)(a)(ii) of this section, 23  
is actively seeking suitable work either in a locality in which 24  
the individual has earned wages subject to this chapter during the 25  
individual's base period, or if the individual leaves that 26  
locality, then in a locality where suitable work normally is 27  
performed. 28

(ii) The director may waive the requirement that a claimant 29  
be actively seeking work when the director finds that the 30  
individual has been laid off and the employer who laid the 31  
individual off has notified the director within ten days after the 32  
layoff, that work is expected to be available for the individual 33  
within a specified number of days not to exceed forty-five 34  
calendar days following the last day the individual worked. In the 35  
event the individual is not recalled within the specified period, 36  
this waiver shall cease to be operative with respect to that 37  
layoff. 38

(b) The individual shall be instructed as to the efforts that 39  
the individual must make in the search for suitable work, except 40  
where the active search for work requirement has been waived under 41  
division (A)(4)(a) of this section, and shall keep a record of 42  
where and when the individual has sought work in complying with 43  
those instructions and, upon request, shall produce that record 44  
for examination by the director. 45

(c) An individual who is attending a training course approved 46  
by the director meets the requirement of this division, if 47

attendance was recommended by the director and the individual is 48  
regularly attending the course and is making satisfactory 49  
progress. An individual also meets the requirements of this 50  
division if the individual is participating and advancing in a 51  
training program, as defined in division (P) of section 5709.61 of 52  
the Revised Code, and if an enterprise, defined in division (B) of 53  
section 5709.61 of the Revised Code, is paying all or part of the 54  
cost of the individual's participation in the training program 55  
with the intention of hiring the individual for employment as a 56  
new employee, as defined in division (L) of section 5709.61 of the 57  
Revised Code, for at least ninety days after the individual's 58  
completion of the training program. 59

(d) An individual who becomes unemployed while attending a 60  
regularly established school and whose base period qualifying 61  
weeks were earned in whole or in part while attending that school, 62  
meets the availability and active search for work requirements of 63  
division (A)(4)(a) of this section if the individual regularly 64  
attends the school during weeks with respect to which the 65  
individual claims unemployment benefits and makes self available 66  
on any shift of hours for suitable employment with the 67  
individual's most recent employer or any other employer in the 68  
individual's base period, or for any other suitable employment to 69  
which the individual is directed, under this chapter. 70

(e) The director shall adopt any rules that the director 71  
deems necessary for the administration of division (A)(4) of this 72  
section. 73

(f) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, no 74  
otherwise eligible individual shall be denied benefits for any 75  
week because the individual is in training approved under section 76  
236(a)(1) of the "Trade Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 1978, 19 U.S.C.A. 77  
2296, nor shall that individual be denied benefits by reason of 78  
leaving work to enter such training, provided the work left is not 79

suitable employment, or because of the application to any week in 80  
training of provisions in this chapter, or any applicable federal 81  
unemployment compensation law, relating to availability for work, 82  
active search for work, or refusal to accept work. 83

For the purposes of division (A)(4)(f) of this section, 84  
"suitable employment" means with respect to an individual, work of 85  
a substantially equal or higher skill level than the individual's 86  
past adversely affected employment, as defined for the purposes of 87  
the "Trade Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 1978, 19 U.S.C.A. 2101, and 88  
wages for such work at not less than eighty per cent of the 89  
individual's average weekly wage as determined for the purposes of 90  
that federal act. 91

(5) Is unable to obtain suitable work. An individual who is 92  
provided temporary work assignments by the individual's employer 93  
under agreed terms and conditions of employment, and who is 94  
required pursuant to those terms and conditions to inquire with 95  
the individual's employer for available work assignments upon the 96  
conclusion of each work assignment, is not considered unable to 97  
obtain suitable employment if suitable work assignments are 98  
available with the employer but the individual fails to contact 99  
the employer to inquire about work assignments. 100

(6) Participates in reemployment services, such as job search 101  
assistance services, if the individual has been determined to be 102  
likely to exhaust benefits under this chapter, including 103  
compensation payable pursuant to 5 U.S.C.A. Chapter 85, other than 104  
extended compensation, and needs reemployment services pursuant to 105  
the profiling system established by the director under division 106  
(K) of this section, unless the director determines that: 107

(a) The individual has completed such services; or 108

(b) There is justifiable cause for the claimant's failure to 109  
participate in such services. 110

(B) An individual suffering total or partial unemployment is 111  
eligible for benefits for unemployment occurring subsequent to a 112  
waiting period of one week and no benefits shall be payable during 113  
this required waiting period. Not more than one week of waiting 114  
period shall be required of any individual in any benefit year in 115  
order to establish the individual's eligibility for total or 116  
partial unemployment benefits. 117

(C) The waiting period for total or partial unemployment 118  
shall commence on the first day of the first week with respect to 119  
which the individual first files a claim for benefits at an 120  
employment office or other place of registration maintained or 121  
designated by the director or on the first day of the first week 122  
with respect to which the individual has otherwise filed a claim 123  
for benefits in accordance with the rules of the department of job 124  
and family services, provided such claim is allowed by the 125  
director. 126

(D) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, no 127  
individual may serve a waiting period or be paid benefits under 128  
the following conditions: 129

(1) For any week with respect to which the director finds 130  
that: 131

(a) The individual's unemployment was due to a labor dispute 132  
other than a lockout at any factory, establishment, or other 133  
premises located in this or any other state and owned or operated 134  
by the employer by which the individual is or was last employed; 135  
and for so long as the individual's unemployment is due to such 136  
labor dispute. No individual shall be disqualified under this 137  
provision if either of the following applies: 138

(i) The individual's employment was with such employer at any 139  
factory, establishment, or premises located in this state, owned 140  
or operated by such employer, other than the factory, 141

establishment, or premises at which the labor dispute exists, if 142  
it is shown that the individual is not financing, participating 143  
in, or directly interested in such labor dispute; 144

(ii) The individual's employment was with an employer not 145  
involved in the labor dispute but whose place of business was 146  
located within the same premises as the employer engaged in the 147  
dispute, unless the individual's employer is a wholly owned 148  
subsidiary of the employer engaged in the dispute, or unless the 149  
individual actively participates in or voluntarily stops work 150  
because of such dispute. If it is established that the claimant 151  
was laid off for an indefinite period and not recalled to work 152  
prior to the dispute, or was separated by the employer prior to 153  
the dispute for reasons other than the labor dispute, or that the 154  
individual obtained a bona fide job with another employer while 155  
the dispute was still in progress, such labor dispute shall not 156  
render the employee ineligible for benefits. 157

(b) The individual has been given a disciplinary layoff for 158  
misconduct in connection with the individual's work. 159

(2) For the duration of the individual's unemployment if the 160  
director finds that: 161

(a) The individual quit work without just cause or has been 162  
discharged for just cause in connection with the individual's 163  
work, provided division (D)(2) of this section does not apply to 164  
the separation of a person under any of the following 165  
circumstances: 166

(i) Separation from employment for the purpose of entering 167  
the armed forces of the United States if the individual is 168  
inducted into the armed forces within one of the following 169  
periods: 170

(I) Thirty days after separation; 171

(II) One hundred eighty days after separation if the 172

individual's date of induction is delayed solely at the discretion 173  
of the armed forces. 174

(ii) Separation from employment pursuant to a 175  
labor-management contract or agreement, or pursuant to an 176  
established employer plan, program, or policy, which permits the 177  
employee, because of lack of work, to accept a separation from 178  
employment; 179

(iii) The individual has left employment to accept a recall 180  
from a prior employer or, except as provided in division 181  
(D)(2)(a)(iv) of this section, to accept other employment as 182  
provided under section 4141.291 of the Revised Code, or left or 183  
was separated from employment that was concurrent employment at 184  
the time of the most recent separation or within six weeks prior 185  
to the most recent separation where the remuneration, hours, or 186  
other conditions of such concurrent employment were substantially 187  
less favorable than the individual's most recent employment and 188  
where such employment, if offered as new work, would be considered 189  
not suitable under the provisions of divisions (E) and (F) of this 190  
section. Any benefits that would otherwise be chargeable to the 191  
account of the employer from whom an individual has left 192  
employment or was separated from employment that was concurrent 193  
employment under conditions described in division (D)(2)(a)(iii) 194  
of this section, shall instead be charged to the mutualized 195  
account created by division (B) of section 4141.25 of the Revised 196  
Code, except that any benefits chargeable to the account of a 197  
reimbursing employer under division (D)(2)(a)(iii) of this section 198  
shall be charged to the account of the reimbursing employer and 199  
not to the mutualized account, except as provided in division 200  
(D)(2) of section 4141.24 of the Revised Code. 201

(iv) When an individual has been issued a definite layoff 202  
date by the individual's employer and before the layoff date, the 203  
individual quits to accept other employment, the provisions of 204

division (D)(2)(a)(iii) of this section apply and no 205  
disqualification shall be imposed under division (D) of this 206  
section. However, if the individual fails to meet the employment 207  
and earnings requirements of division (A)(2) of section 4141.291 208  
of the Revised Code, then the individual, pursuant to division 209  
(A)(5) of this section, shall be ineligible for benefits for any 210  
week of unemployment that occurs prior to the layoff date. 211

(v) The individual's spouse is a member of the armed services 212  
of the United States, the spouse is the subject of a military 213  
transfer, and the individual left employment to accompany the 214  
individual's spouse. 215

(b) The individual has refused without good cause to accept 216  
an offer of suitable work when made by an employer either in 217  
person or to the individual's last known address, or has refused 218  
or failed to investigate a referral to suitable work when directed 219  
to do so by a local employment office of this state or another 220  
state, provided that this division shall not cause a 221  
disqualification for a waiting week or benefits under the 222  
following circumstances: 223

(i) When work is offered by the individual's employer and the 224  
individual is not required to accept the offer pursuant to the 225  
terms of the labor-management contract or agreement; or 226

(ii) When the individual is attending a training course 227  
pursuant to division (A)(4) of this section except, in the event 228  
of a refusal to accept an offer of suitable work or a refusal or 229  
failure to investigate a referral, benefits thereafter paid to 230  
such individual shall not be charged to the account of any 231  
employer and, except as provided in division (B)(1)(b) of section 232  
4141.241 of the Revised Code, shall be charged to the mutualized 233  
account as provided in division (B) of section 4141.25 of the 234  
Revised Code. 235



(c) Such individual quit work to marry or because of marital, 236  
parental, filial, or other domestic obligations. 237

(d) The individual became unemployed by reason of commitment 238  
to any correctional institution. 239

(e) The individual became unemployed because of dishonesty in 240  
connection with the individual's most recent or any base period 241  
work. Remuneration earned in such work shall be excluded from the 242  
individual's total base period remuneration and qualifying weeks 243  
that otherwise would be credited to the individual for such work 244  
in the individual's base period shall not be credited for the 245  
purpose of determining the total benefits to which the individual 246  
is eligible and the weekly benefit amount to be paid under section 247  
4141.30 of the Revised Code. Such excluded remuneration and 248  
noncredited qualifying weeks shall be excluded from the 249  
calculation of the maximum amount to be charged, under division 250  
(D) of section 4141.24 and section 4141.33 of the Revised Code, 251  
against the accounts of the individual's base period employers. In 252  
addition, no benefits shall thereafter be paid to the individual 253  
based upon such excluded remuneration or noncredited qualifying 254  
weeks. 255

For purposes of division (D)(2)(e) of this section, 256  
"dishonesty" means the commission of substantive theft, fraud, or 257  
deceitful acts. 258

(E) No individual otherwise qualified to receive benefits 259  
shall lose the right to benefits by reason of a refusal to accept 260  
new work if: 261

(1) As a condition of being so employed the individual would 262  
be required to join a company union, or to resign from or refrain 263  
from joining any bona fide labor organization, or would be denied 264  
the right to retain membership in and observe the lawful rules of 265  
any such organization. 266

(2) The position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, 267  
lockout, or other labor dispute. 268

(3) The work is at an unreasonable distance from the 269  
individual's residence, having regard to the character of the work 270  
the individual has been accustomed to do, and travel to the place 271  
of work involves expenses substantially greater than that required 272  
for the individual's former work, unless the expense is provided 273  
for. 274

(4) The remuneration, hours, or other conditions of the work 275  
offered are substantially less favorable to the individual than 276  
those prevailing for similar work in the locality. 277

(F) Subject to the special exceptions contained in division 278  
(A)(4)(f) of this section and section 4141.301 of the Revised 279  
Code, in determining whether any work is suitable for a claimant 280  
in the administration of this chapter, the director, in addition 281  
to the determination required under division (E) of this section, 282  
shall consider the degree of risk to the claimant's health, 283  
safety, and morals, the individual's physical fitness for the 284  
work, the individual's prior training and experience, the length 285  
of the individual's unemployment, the distance of the available 286  
work from the individual's residence, and the individual's 287  
prospects for obtaining local work. 288

(G) The "duration of unemployment" as used in this section 289  
means the full period of unemployment next ensuing after a 290  
separation from any base period or subsequent work and until an 291  
individual has become reemployed in employment subject to this 292  
chapter, or the unemployment compensation act of another state, or 293  
of the United States, and until such individual has worked six 294  
weeks and for those weeks has earned or been paid remuneration 295  
equal to six times an average weekly wage of not less than: 296  
eighty-five dollars and ten cents per week beginning on June 26, 297  
1990; and beginning on and after January 1, 1992, twenty-seven and 298

one-half per cent of the statewide average weekly wage as computed 299  
each first day of January under division (B)(3) of section 4141.30 300  
of the Revised Code, rounded down to the nearest dollar, except 301  
for purposes of division (D)(2)(c) of this section, such term 302  
means the full period of unemployment next ensuing after a 303  
separation from such work and until such individual has become 304  
reemployed subject to the terms set forth above, and has earned 305  
wages equal to one-half of the individual's average weekly wage or 306  
sixty dollars, whichever is less. 307

(H) If a claimant is disqualified under division (D)(2)(a), 308  
(c), or (d) of this section or found to be qualified under the 309  
exceptions provided in division (D)(2)(a)(i), (iii), ~~or~~ (iv), or 310  
(v) of this section or division (A)(2) of section 4141.291 of the 311  
Revised Code, then benefits that may become payable to such 312  
claimant, which are chargeable to the account of the employer from 313  
whom the individual was separated under such conditions, shall be 314  
charged to the mutualized account provided in section 4141.25 of 315  
the Revised Code, provided that no charge shall be made to the 316  
mutualized account for benefits chargeable to a reimbursing 317  
employer, except as provided in division (D)(2) of section 4141.24 318  
of the Revised Code. In the case of a reimbursing employer, the 319  
director shall refund or credit to the account of the reimbursing 320  
employer any over-paid benefits that are recovered under division 321  
(B) of section 4141.35 of the Revised Code. Amounts chargeable to 322  
other states, the United States, or Canada that are subject to 323  
agreements and arrangements that are established pursuant to 324  
section 4141.43 of the Revised Code shall be credited or 325  
reimbursed according to the agreements and arrangements to which 326  
the chargeable amounts are subject. 327

(I)(1) Benefits based on service in employment as provided in 328  
divisions (B)(2)(a) and (b) of section 4141.01 of the Revised Code 329  
shall be payable in the same amount, on the same terms, and 330

subject to the same conditions as benefits payable on the basis of 331  
other service subject to this chapter; except that after December 332  
31, 1977: 333

(a) Benefits based on service in an instructional, research, 334  
or principal administrative capacity in an institution of higher 335  
education, as defined in division (Y) of section 4141.01 of the 336  
Revised Code; or for an educational institution as defined in 337  
division (CC) of section 4141.01 of the Revised Code, shall not be 338  
paid to any individual for any week of unemployment that begins 339  
during the period between two successive academic years or terms, 340  
or during a similar period between two regular but not successive 341  
terms or during a period of paid sabbatical leave provided for in 342  
the individual's contract, if the individual performs such 343  
services in the first of those academic years or terms and has a 344  
contract or a reasonable assurance that the individual will 345  
perform services in any such capacity for any such institution in 346  
the second of those academic years or terms. 347

(b) Benefits based on service for an educational institution 348  
or an institution of higher education in other than an 349  
instructional, research, or principal administrative capacity, 350  
shall not be paid to any individual for any week of unemployment 351  
which begins during the period between two successive academic 352  
years or terms of the employing educational institution or 353  
institution of higher education, provided the individual performed 354  
those services for the educational institution or institution of 355  
higher education during the first such academic year or term and, 356  
there is a reasonable assurance that such individual will perform 357  
those services for any educational institution or institution of 358  
higher education in the second of such academic years or terms. 359

If compensation is denied to any individual for any week 360  
under division (I)(1)(b) of this section and the individual was 361  
not offered an opportunity to perform those services for an 362

institution of higher education or for an educational institution 363  
for the second of such academic years or terms, the individual is 364  
entitled to a retroactive payment of compensation for each week 365  
for which the individual timely filed a claim for compensation and 366  
for which compensation was denied solely by reason of division 367  
(I)(1)(b) of this section. An application for retroactive benefits 368  
shall be timely filed if received by the director or the 369  
director's deputy within or prior to the end of the fourth full 370  
calendar week after the end of the period for which benefits were 371  
denied because of reasonable assurance of employment. The 372  
provision for the payment of retroactive benefits under division 373  
(I)(1)(b) of this section is applicable to weeks of unemployment 374  
beginning on and after November 18, 1983. The provisions under 375  
division (I)(1)(b) of this section shall be retroactive to 376  
September 5, 1982, only if, as a condition for full tax credit 377  
against the tax imposed by the "Federal Unemployment Tax Act," 53 378  
Stat. 183 (1939), 26 U.S.C.A. 3301 to 3311, the United States 379  
secretary of labor determines that retroactivity is required by 380  
federal law. 381

(c) With respect to weeks of unemployment beginning after 382  
December 31, 1977, benefits shall be denied to any individual for 383  
any week which commences during an established and customary 384  
vacation period or holiday recess, if the individual performs any 385  
services described in divisions (I)(1)(a) and (b) of this section 386  
in the period immediately before the vacation period or holiday 387  
recess, and there is a reasonable assurance that the individual 388  
will perform any such services in the period immediately following 389  
the vacation period or holiday recess. 390

(d) With respect to any services described in division 391  
(I)(1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section, benefits payable on the 392  
basis of services in any such capacity shall be denied as 393  
specified in division (I)(1)(a), (b), or (c) of this section to 394

any individual who performs such services in an educational 395  
institution or institution of higher education while in the employ 396  
of an educational service agency. For this purpose, the term 397  
"educational service agency" means a governmental agency or 398  
governmental entity that is established and operated exclusively 399  
for the purpose of providing services to one or more educational 400  
institutions or one or more institutions of higher education. 401

(e) Any individual employed by a county board of 402  
developmental disabilities shall be notified by the thirtieth day 403  
of April each year if the individual is not to be reemployed the 404  
following academic year. 405

(f) Any individual employed by a school district, other than 406  
a municipal school district as defined in section 3311.71 of the 407  
Revised Code, shall be notified by the first day of June each year 408  
if the individual is not to be reemployed the following academic 409  
year. 410

(2) No disqualification will be imposed, between academic 411  
years or terms or during a vacation period or holiday recess under 412  
this division, unless the director or the director's deputy has 413  
received a statement in writing from the educational institution 414  
or institution of higher education that the claimant has a 415  
contract for, or a reasonable assurance of, reemployment for the 416  
ensuing academic year or term. 417

(3) If an individual has employment with an educational 418  
institution or an institution of higher education and employment 419  
with a noneducational employer, during the base period of the 420  
individual's benefit year, then the individual may become eligible 421  
for benefits during the between-term, or vacation or holiday 422  
recess, disqualification period, based on employment performed for 423  
the noneducational employer, provided that the employment is 424  
sufficient to qualify the individual for benefit rights separately 425  
from the benefit rights based on school employment. The weekly 426

benefit amount and maximum benefits payable during a 427  
disqualification period shall be computed based solely on the 428  
nonschool employment. 429

(J) Benefits shall not be paid on the basis of employment 430  
performed by an alien, unless the alien had been lawfully admitted 431  
to the United States for permanent residence at the time the 432  
services were performed, was lawfully present for purposes of 433  
performing the services, or was otherwise permanently residing in 434  
the United States under color of law at the time the services were 435  
performed, under section 212(d)(5) of the "Immigration and 436  
Nationality Act," 66 Stat. 163, 8 U.S.C.A. 1101: 437

(1) Any data or information required of individuals applying 438  
for benefits to determine whether benefits are not payable to them 439  
because of their alien status shall be uniformly required from all 440  
applicants for benefits. 441

(2) In the case of an individual whose application for 442  
benefits would otherwise be approved, no determination that 443  
benefits to the individual are not payable because of the 444  
individual's alien status shall be made except upon a 445  
preponderance of the evidence that the individual had not, in 446  
fact, been lawfully admitted to the United States. 447

(K) The director shall establish and utilize a system of 448  
profiling all new claimants under this chapter that: 449

(1) Identifies which claimants will be likely to exhaust 450  
regular compensation and will need job search assistance services 451  
to make a successful transition to new employment; 452

(2) Refers claimants identified pursuant to division (K)(1) 453  
of this section to reemployment services, such as job search 454  
assistance services, available under any state or federal law; 455

(3) Collects follow-up information relating to the services 456  
received by such claimants and the employment outcomes for such 457

claimant's subsequent to receiving such services and utilizes such 458  
information in making identifications pursuant to division (K)(1) 459  
of this section; and 460

(4) Meets such other requirements as the United States 461  
secretary of labor determines are appropriate. 462

**Section 2.** That existing section 4141.29 of the Revised Code 463  
is hereby repealed. 464

**Section 3.** Section 4141.29 of the Revised Code is presented 465  
in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Sub. 466  
H.B. 525 and Am. Sub. S.B. 316 of the 129th General Assembly. The 467  
General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of 468  
section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 469  
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds 470  
that the composite is the resulting version of the section in 471  
effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in 472  
this act. 473