



S.B. 116*

127th General Assembly

(As Reported by S. Finance & Financial Institutions)

Sens. Padgett, Coughlin, Niehaus, Stivers, Faber, Clancy, Jacobson, Goodman, Smith, D. Miller, Schuler, Grendell, Mumper, Schuring, Buehrer

BILL SUMMARY

- Prohibits reducing a claimant's unemployment compensation benefits by the amount the claimant concurrently receives in social security retirement benefits if the claimant contributed to social security pursuant to the Social Security Act.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Pension offset of unemployment compensation benefits

(R.C. 4141.312(A) and (B))

Under current law, the amount of unemployment compensation benefits payable to a claimant for any week with respect to which the claimant is receiving a governmental or other pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity or any other similar periodic payment that is based on the previous work of the individual, must be reduced by an amount equal to the amount of the pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity or other payment reasonably attributable to that week. However, this reduction applies to a pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity, or other similar periodic payment only if both of the following apply:

(1) The payment is under a plan maintained or contributed to by a base period employer or chargeable employer.¹

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee appeared in the Senate Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

(2) In the case of a payment under a plan not made under the federal Social Security Act or the federal Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, or the corresponding provisions of prior law, services performed for such employer by the individual after the beginning of the base period, or remuneration for such services, affect eligibility for, or increase the amount of, such pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity, or similar payment.

Additionally, under current law, the amount of any disability pension, allowance, or payment paid to former members of the United States armed forces that is based on the nature and extent of the disability rather than a prior period of employment or service, cannot reduce or be deducted from the weekly benefits payable.

Elimination of social security benefit offset

(R.C. 4141.312(C))

The bill adds another exception to the pension offset of unemployment compensation benefits. Under the bill, if a claimant has made a contribution to social security pursuant to the Social Security Act, and that claimant is receiving a retirement payment pursuant to the Act, the claimant's weekly benefit is not to be reduced by the amount of that retirement payment because the claimant contributed to social security.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-14-07
Reported, S. Finance & Financial Institutions	---

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¹ A "base period" generally means the first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of an individual's benefit year. A base period employer or chargeable employer is an employer who employed a claimant during the claimant's base period.