

AMENDMENTS TO LB921

Introduced by Business and Labor.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 **Sec. 16.** Section 48-628, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 48-628 (1) An individual shall be disqualified for benefits for any
6 week of unemployment in which the commissioner finds he or she has
7 failed, without good cause, to apply for available, suitable work when so
8 directed by the employment office or the commissioner, to respond to an
9 offer for a job interview for suitable work within one week, to respond
10 to an offer for a job for suitable work within one week, to appear for a
11 previously scheduled job interview for suitable work without notifying
12 the prospective employer of the need to cancel or reschedule the
13 interview, to accept suitable work offered him or her, or to return to
14 his or her customary self-employment, if any, and for the twelve weeks
15 immediately thereafter. The total benefit amount to which he or she is
16 then entitled shall be reduced by an amount equal to the number of weeks
17 for which he or she has been disqualified by the commissioner. The
18 commissioner may consider the manner of communication established between
19 the individual and the prospective employer about how the interview will
20 be conducted or a job offer will be extended in determining if an
21 individual failed to appear for a previously scheduled job interview
22 without notifying the prospective employer of the need to cancel or
23 reschedule the interview or failed to respond to an offer for a job.

24 (2) In determining whether or not any work is suitable for an
25 individual, the commissioner shall consider the following:

26 (a) The degree of risk involved to the individual's health, safety,
27 and morals;

- 1 (b) His or her physical fitness and prior training;
- 2 (c) His or her experience and prior earnings;
- 3 (d) His or her length of unemployment and prospects for securing
- 4 local work in his or her customary occupation; and
- 5 (e) The distance of the available work from his or her residence.

6 (3) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Employment Security
7 Law, no work shall be deemed suitable and benefits shall not be denied
8 under such law to any otherwise eligible individual for refusing to
9 accept new work under any of the following conditions:

10 (a) If the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike,
11 lockout, or other labor dispute;

12 (b) If the wages, hours, or other conditions of the work offered are
13 substantially less favorable to the individual than those prevailing for
14 similar work in the locality; or

15 (c) If, as a condition of being employed, the individual would be
16 required to join a company union or to resign from or refrain from
17 joining any bona fide labor organization.

18 (4) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this section relating to
19 failure to apply for or a refusal to accept suitable work, no otherwise
20 eligible individual shall be denied benefits with respect to any week in
21 which he or she is in training with the approval of the commissioner.

22 (5) No individual shall be disqualified for refusing to apply for
23 available, full-time work or accept full-time work under subsection (1)
24 of this section solely because such individual is seeking part-time work
25 if the majority of the weeks of work in an individual's base period
26 include part-time work. For purposes of this subsection, seeking only
27 part-time work shall mean seeking less than full-time work having
28 comparable hours to the individual's part-time work in the base period,
29 except that the individual must be available for work at least twenty
30 hours per week.

31 **Sec. 23.** Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, and 25 of

1 this act become operative on January 1, 2027. The other sections of this
2 act become operative on their effective date.

3 **Sec. 24.** Original sections 48-628, 48-2209, 81-8,236, 81-8,300,
4 81-8,316, and 81-8,318, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are
5 repealed.