

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-eighth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 12-0489.02 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 12-1272

---

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Duran**, Fields, Tyler, Casso, Ferrandino, Hullinghorst, Miklosi, Singer, Solano, Soper, Vigil

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

---

House Committees

Economic and Business Development  
Appropriations

Senate Committees

---

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101      **CONCERNING CONTINUATION OF ENHANCED UNEMPLOYMENT**  
102            **INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS**  
103            **PARTICIPATING IN APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

---

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill extends the availability of enhanced unemployment insurance benefits through June 30, 2014, for an eligible claimant participating in an approved training program targeted at training the claimant for a high-demand occupation. The department of labor and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

employment is authorized to obligate up to \$8 million during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 fiscal years to pay enhanced unemployment compensation benefits to eligible claimants during that period.

Eligible claimants would include, in addition to those receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits, those receiving extended unemployment insurance benefits or benefits under a military or federal claim. Additionally, the bill expands the types of approved training programs to include employer-based and entrepreneurial training programs and expands the list of training program providers to include employers and entities that provide apprenticeship or entrepreneurial training.

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-73-114, **amend** (1),  
3 (2), (3) (b), (4) (b), (5), (6) introductory portion, (8), and (9) as follows:

4 **8-73-114. Enhanced unemployment insurance compensation**  
5 **benefits - eligibility - approved training programs - amount of**  
6 **benefits - outreach - notice of funding through gifts, grants, and**  
7 **donations - repeal.** (1) Enhanced unemployment insurance  
8 compensation benefits are available for an ELIGIBLE unemployment  
9 insurance claimant ~~on a regular state unemployment claim~~ who is enrolled  
10 ENGAGED in and making satisfactory progress, as certified by the training  
11 program provider, in an approved training program.

12 (2) An approved training program ~~shall~~ MUST prepare the eligible  
13 unemployment insurance claimant for entry into a high-demand  
14 occupation. ~~an occupation that leads to stable, long-term employment, or~~  
15 ~~an occupation in the renewable energy industry.~~ The director of the  
16 ~~division~~ shall identify ~~such~~ THESE occupations based upon the  
17 recommendations of local work force investment boards, working with  
18 the section of the ~~division~~ DEPARTMENT responsible for labor market  
19 information.

1           (3) (b) THE DIVISION SHALL NOT PAY enhanced unemployment  
2 insurance compensation benefits ~~shall not be paid~~ pursuant to this section  
3 after June 30, ~~2012~~ 2014.

4           (4) (b) (I) The division shall develop and improve outreach efforts  
5 to unemployed workers, and particularly traditionally underserved  
6 populations, to inform them of the availability of enhanced  
7 unemployment insurance compensation benefits under this section.  
8 ~~Subject to appropriation by the general assembly pursuant to section~~  
9 ~~8-77-107, the division is authorized to expend up to five hundred~~  
10 ~~thousand dollars in the federal unemployment trust fund received~~  
11 ~~pursuant to the federal "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of~~  
12 ~~2009" and section 903(g) of the federal "Social Security Act" to cover its~~  
13 ~~administrative costs related to its outreach efforts.~~

14           (II) THE DIVISION MAY SEEK, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND GIFTS, GRANTS,  
15 AND DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SOURCES, CONSISTENT WITH  
16 SECTION 8-71-102, TO COVER ITS ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS RELATED TO ITS  
17 OUTREACH EFFORTS AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION. THE  
18 DIVISION SHALL NOT ACCEPT A GIFT, GRANT, OR DONATION IF IT IS SUBJECT  
19 TO CONDITIONS THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THIS SECTION OR ANY  
20 OTHER LAW OF THE STATE. ANY MONEYS GIVEN, GRANTED, OR DONATED  
21 TO THE DIVISION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (II) ARE SUBJECT TO  
22 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE DIVISION FOR  
23 THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING THIS  
24 SECTION.

25           (III) (A) THE DIVISION SHALL NOTIFY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
26 STAFF WHEN IT HAS RECEIVED ADEQUATE FUNDING THROUGH GIFTS,  
27 GRANTS, OR DONATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION AND SHALL INCLUDE

1 IN THE NOTIFICATION THE INFORMATION SPECIFIED IN SECTION 24-75-1303  
2 (3), C.R.S.

3 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (III) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1,  
4 2015.

5 (5) The division ~~is authorized to~~ MAY pay enhanced  
6 unemployment insurance compensation benefits pursuant to this section  
7 but ~~may~~ SHALL not obligate expenditures beyond the limits specified in  
8 this section or as otherwise established by the general assembly. For the  
9 2009-10, 2010-11, and 2011-12 fiscal years, the director ~~of the division~~  
10 may obligate a total of fifteen million dollars to be expended over those  
11 three fiscal years. FOR THE 2012-13 AND 2013-14 FISCAL YEARS, THE  
12 DIRECTOR MAY OBLIGATE A TOTAL OF EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS TO BE  
13 EXPENDED TO PAY ENHANCED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS  
14 DURING THOSE TWO FISCAL YEARS.

15 (6) By December 31, 2009, and by each December 31 thereafter  
16 until December 31, ~~2011~~ 2013, the division shall submit a report to the  
17 joint budget committee, the ECONOMIC AND ~~business affairs and labor~~  
18 DEVELOPMENT committee of the house of representatives, and the  
19 business, labor, and technology committee of the senate, or their  
20 successor committees, regarding the status of the enhanced  
21 unemployment insurance compensation benefits program and the  
22 resulting outcomes. The report shall include at least the following:

23 (8) As used in this section:

24 (a) (I) "Approved training program" means a vocational training,  
25 ~~or~~ registered apprenticeship, EMPLOYER-BASED, OR ENTREPRENEURIAL  
26 TRAINING program, approved by the director ~~of the division~~ that:

27 (A) Is targeted to training for a high-demand occupation, ~~an~~

1 ~~occupation that would be more stable and long term for the~~  
2 ~~unemployment insurance claimant, or an occupation in the renewable~~  
3 ~~energy industry~~ BASED ON LABOR MARKET INFORMATION; and

4 (B) Is likely to enhance the unemployment insurance claimant's  
5 marketable skills and earning power.

6 (II) "APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM" INCLUDES  
7 ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR AS PART OF THE  
8 SELF-EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CREATED IN ARTICLE 75.5 OF  
9 THIS TITLE.

10 ~~(H)~~ (III) "Approved training program" does not include any course  
11 of education primarily intended to meet the requirements of an associate,  
12 baccalaureate, or higher degree, unless the training meets specific  
13 requirements for certification, licensing, or specific skills necessary for  
14 the occupation.

15 (b) "DIRECTOR" MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OR HIS OR  
16 HER DESIGNEE.

17 ~~(b)~~ (c) "Eligible unemployment insurance claimant" means an  
18 unemployment insurance claimant on a regular OR EXTENDED BENEFITS  
19 state unemployment claim OR A MILITARY OR FEDERAL CLAIM who is  
20 receiving benefits pursuant to ~~section 8-73-108~~ and is eligible for  
21 enhanced unemployment insurance compensation benefits pursuant to this  
22 section.

23 ~~(e)~~ (d) "Enhanced unemployment insurance compensation  
24 benefits" means additional benefits paid to an eligible unemployment  
25 insurance claimant in accordance with this section.

26 ~~(d)~~ (e) "Training program provider" means a postsecondary  
27 educational institution, including an institution of higher education, a

1 community or technical college, ~~and~~ an occupational education program,  
2 ~~providing a~~ AN EMPLOYER, OR ANY OTHER ENTITY THAT PROVIDES AN  
3 APPRENTICESHIP OR ENTREPRENEURIAL training program approved by the  
4 division or authorized under the federal "Workforce Investment Act of  
5 1998", 29 U.S.C. sec. 2801 et seq., as amended.

6 (9) This section is repealed, effective July 1, ~~2012~~ 2014.

7 **SECTION 2. Effective date.** This act takes effect July 1, 2012.

8 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
9 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
10 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.