2021 Assembly Bill 336

2021 WISCONSIN ACT

AN ACT to amend 108.04 (2) (bb) (intro.) and 108.04 (2) (bd) (intro.); and to create 108.04 (2) (be) of the statutes; relating to: participation in federal unemployment benefit programs and work search requirements for unemployment insurance.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 108.04 (2) (bb) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

108.04  (2)  (bb) (intro.)  The department shall, except as provided under pars. (bd) and (be), waive the work search requirement under par. (a) 3. if any of the following applies:

SECTION 2. 108.04 (2) (bd) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

108.04  (2)  (bd) (intro.)  The department may, by rule, do any of the following if doing so is necessary to comply with a requirement under federal law or is specifically allowed under federal law:

SECTION 3. 108.04 (2) (be) of the statutes is created to read:

108.04  (2)  (be) 1. In this paragraph:
   b. “Public health emergency” includes any public health emergency declared under s. 323.10, including any extension, any action by the department of health services under ch. 252, any federally declared emergency, or any period in which this state has been the subject of a major disaster declaration.

   2. The department may not waive the work search requirement under par. (a) 3. for any reason that is related to COVID–19 or the COVID–19 pandemic or a public health emergency that is in response to or otherwise related to COVID–19 or the COVID–19 pandemic.


(1) TERMINATION OF PARTICIPATION IN FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

   (a) The governor and the secretary of workforce development shall act to terminate all of the following:
   1. The agreement under 15 USC 9021 (f) governing this state’s participation in the pandemic unemployment assistance program under 15 USC 9021.
   2. The agreement under 15 USC 9023 (a) governing this state’s participation in the federal pandemic unemployment compensation and mixed earner unemployment compensation programs under 15 USC 9023.
   3. The agreement under 15 USC 9025 (a) governing this state’s participation in the pandemic emergency unemployment compensation program under 15 USC 9025.

* Section 991.11, Wisconsin Statutes: Effective date of acts. “Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor’s partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication.”
(b) The termination of the agreements under par. (a) shall be effective for weeks of unemployment beginning with the earliest week after the effective date of this paragraph that the agreements can be terminated.

SECTION 5. Initial applicability.
(1) The treatment of s. 108.04 (2) (bb) (intro.), (bd) (intro.), and (be) first applies to weeks of unemployment beginning on the Sunday after publication.