



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DWD 4/21/2023

LRB Number	23-2680/1	Introduction Number	SB-0231	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> various changes to the unemployment insurance law					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill provides that an employer may report to DWD whenever: 1) an individual declines a job interview or job offer, 2) an individual fails to respond to a job interview offer or job offer, 3) an individual fails to attend a scheduled job interview without attempting to reschedule the job interview, 4) UI claimant is unavailable for, or unable to perform, work actually available within a given week, and 5) under certain circumstances when the employer recalls a former employee receiving UI benefits who fails to return to work. DWD will be required to consider these reports and investigate, as needed, to determine a claimant's eligibility for benefits.

As these provisions of the bill are optional to employers, they are not assumed to cause a material increase of employer responses submitted to DWD. However, it is assumed that a small percentage of submitted reports will involve UI claimants and a smaller portion of these reports may result in a reduction in UI benefits and thus an indeterminate increase to the UI Trust Fund balance.

While the department has a process to handle employer objections, to implement a process as specified under the bill to accept submitted employer responses, systems modifications are needed. The required IT work is estimated at 190 hours for a one-time cost of \$16,900. Administrative work to support the IT implementation is estimated to cost \$5,100. The costs for IT and related administrative support work are estimated to be one-time.

Additionally, this bill requires DWD to have in effect methods to address any circumstances in which a claimant for UI benefits fails to return to work or to accept suitable work without good cause or is unavailable for work or unable to work, including reporting methods for employers and a notice from DWD to claimants about the laws governing such circumstances.

These provisions are not different from current UI business practices and thus are not expected to increase administrative costs or impact the UI Trust Fund.

Finally, the bill requires, instead of allows, DWD to act to recover overpayments in certain circumstances and requires overpayments to be repaid in cases where an individual makes misrepresentations to obtain benefits in the name of another person. These provisions are not different from current UI business practices and thus are not expected to increase administrative costs or impact the UI Trust Fund. This provision would not apply when waivers of federal overpayments have been authorized.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications