



SENATE BILL 217: UI/Precinct Workers/2020 General Election.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	November 3, 2020
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Erika Churchill Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	S.L. 2020-71		

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2020-71 exempts payments by county boards of elections to precinct officials for training and working on general election day in 2020 from income for purposes of unemployment insurance.*

CURRENT LAW: The unemployment insurance system pays temporary assistance to eligible individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own. Not everyone who applies for unemployment benefits will qualify as certain conditions must be met in order to meet initial eligibility requirements and to remain eligible to receive benefits.

There are four basic criteria that must be met in order to be eligible for unemployment benefits in North Carolina:

- The applicant must be unemployed due to no fault of that individual. The Department of Employment Security makes this determination based upon information provided by applicant and the applicant's last employer.
- The applicant must be considered monetarily eligible, i.e. earned sufficient wages to establish a claim.
- The applicant must be physically able, available, and actively seeking work.
- The applicant must register for work with North Carolina's job service office.

If a recipient is approved and works while receiving unemployment benefits, the recipient must report moneys earned when filing the required weekly certification. A recipient can earn up to 20% of that recipient's weekly benefit amount without penalty. Earnings over that amount are deducted from the weekly benefits.

G.S. 163-46 requires every county board of elections to pay all precinct officials for attending training prior to working in the polls on election day and for working in the polls on election day. Such income would be required to be reported on any weekly certification by a recipient of unemployment insurance.

BILL ANALYSIS: The act provides that payments received by precinct officials and assistants under G.S. 163-46 for work performed during the period from September 1, 2020, until November 5, 2020, do not reduce unemployment insurance benefits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act became effective July 1, 2020.

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Legislative Analysis
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