



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 153: North Carolina Border Protection Act, Part IV: Unemployment Compensation: Verify Legal Status

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-19, Part IV

Date: August 19, 2026

Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
Division Staff

Part IV of S.L. 2026-19 (Senate Bill 153), as amended by Section 5.9(b7) of S.L. 2026-41, requires the Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security, to the extent permitted by federal law, to adopt and implement a policy to verify that all applicants for unemployment benefits are legally authorized to reside in the United States before receiving the first unemployment benefit payment. The policy must be adopted by January 15, 2027.

This bill was vetoed by the Governor on June 20, 2025, and that veto was overridden by the General Assembly on June 24, 2026. This section became effective June 24, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



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