

Calendar No. 391

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1759

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 10, 2019

Received

DECEMBER 18, 2019

Read the first time

DECEMBER 19, 2019

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

AN ACT

To amend title III of the Social Security Act to extend reemployment services and eligibility assessments to all claimants for unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Building on Reemploy-
5 ment Improvements to Deliver Good Employment for
6 Workers Act” or the “BRIDGE for Workers Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public
4 Law 115–123) improved program accountability for
5 effectively serving unemployed workers and made a
6 significant new investment in reemployment services.

7 (2) Research shows the longer workers are out
8 of work, the harder it can be to maintain their skills,
9 professional network, and stable home life.

10 (3) Reemployment services give workers who
11 might otherwise struggle to find new jobs the tools
12 that they need to get back to work—such as individ-
13 ualized career counseling and job search help as well
14 as local labor market information—and they can
15 serve as an entry point to the workforce development
16 system.

17 (4) Reemployment services have been dem-
18 onstrated to reduce the number of weeks that pro-
19 gram participants receive unemployment benefits by
20 improving their employment outcomes, including
21 earnings.

22 (5) Unemployment benefits replace less than
23 half of working income, on average, so workers who
24 find new jobs quickly suffer less financial hardship.

25 (6) Combining targeted reemployment services
26 with unemployment benefits helps keep people at-

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