

1 S.288

2 Introduced by Senators Brock, Clarkson, Collamore, Cummings and Weeks

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Labor; unemployment insurance; fraud; penalties

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require an
7 individual who fraudulently obtains unemployment insurance benefits to repay
8 the amount of overpaid benefits and pay a penalty equal to 15 percent of the
9 amount of overpaid benefits plus an additional administrative penalty of up to
10 \$5,000.00 and to make the individual ineligible to receive unemployment
11 insurance benefits for period of five years.

12 An act relating to unemployment insurance fraud

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 1368 is amended to read:

15 § 1368. FALSE STATEMENTS TO INCREASE PAYMENTS

16 (a) A person ~~shall not willfully and~~ who intentionally make makes a false
17 statement or representation to obtain ~~or~~ increase, or initiate any benefit or
18 other payment under this chapter, ~~either for himself, herself,~~ whether for
19 themselves or any other person, shall, after notice and an opportunity for a
20 hearing, be:

1 ~~determination for such number of weeks not exceeding 26 as the~~
2 ~~Commissioner shall deem just. The notice of determination shall also specify~~
3 ~~the period of disqualification imposed hereunder.~~

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5 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.