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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To incentivize American workers to seek and accept jobs, to aid the economic recovery by converting Federal pandemic emergency unemployment compensation into back to work bonuses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BUDD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To incentivize American workers to seek and accept jobs, to aid the economic recovery by converting Federal pandemic emergency unemployment compensation into back to work bonuses, 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 “Back to Work Bonus
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BACK TO WORK BONUSES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2104(b) of the CARES
3 Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(b)) is amended—

4 (1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
5 graph (5); and

6 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
7 lowing:

8 “(4) BACK-TO-WORK BONUSES.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Any agreement under
10 this section may also provide that the State
11 agency of the State may make a lump sum pay-
12 ment to each individual who—

13 “(i) was eligible for Federal Pandemic
14 Unemployment Compensation under para-
15 graph (1) for—

16 “(I) any week beginning after the
17 date of enactment of the Back to
18 Work Bonus Act; and

19 “(II) at least 4 weeks imme-
20 diately preceding the week under
21 clause (I);

22 “(ii) is no longer eligible for Federal
23 Pandemic Unemployment Compensation
24 under paragraph (1) (as determined by the
25 State), as a result of earnings due to com-
26 mencing employment with an employer by

1 whom the individual has not been em-
2 ployed during the preceding 6 months; and

3 “(iii) as verified by the individual’s
4 employer pursuant to subparagraph (E)—

5 “(I) has been employed by a non-
6 governmental employer throughout
7 the qualifying period; and

8 “(II) remains employed with an
9 intent to continue such employment.

10 “(B) AMOUNT.—A payment made to an
11 individual under this paragraph shall be paid in
12 a lump sum \$900.

13 “(C) QUALIFYING PERIOD.—For purposes
14 of this paragraph, the term ‘qualifying period’
15 means, with respect to an individual, a period—

16 “(i) beginning on the date the indi-
17 vidual commenced employment as de-
18 scribed in subparagraph (A)(ii); and

19 “(ii) extending at least 4 consecutive
20 weeks from such date.

21 “(D) DURATION.—A lump-sum payment
22 may not be made to any individual under this
23 paragraph with respect to a qualifying period
24 beginning on or after August 14, 2021.

1 “(E) EMPLOYER VERIFICATION REQUIRED
2 FOR LUMP-SUM PAYMENT.—Before making a
3 lump-sum payment to an individual pursuant to
4 this paragraph, a State agency shall require
5 verification from the individual’s employer—

6 “(i) of the individual’s employment
7 status;

8 “(ii) of the wages paid to the indi-
9 vidual during the applicable qualifying pe-
10 riod; and

11 “(iii) of the hours worked by the indi-
12 vidual during the qualifying period.

13 “(F) LIMITATION.—A State may not pro-
14 vide more than 1 lump-sum payment under this
15 paragraph to an individual.

16 “(G) SPECIAL RULE.—A payment made
17 pursuant to an agreement under this paragraph
18 shall not be considered to violate the withdrawal
19 requirements of section 303(a)(5) or section
20 3304(a)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of
21 1986.”.

22 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2104 of
23 the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023) is amended—

24 (1) in subsections (d) and (f), by inserting “,
25 payments under subsection (b)(4)” after “Federal

1 Pandemic Unemployment Compensation” each place
2 it appears; and

3 (2) in subsection (g)—

4 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
5 the end;

6 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking the pe-
7 riod at the end inserting “; and”; and

8 (C) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(3) the purposes of the preceding provisions of
10 this section, as such provisions apply with respect to
11 payments under subsection (b)(4), shall be applied
12 with respect to unemployment benefits described in
13 subsection (i)(2) to the same extent and in the same
14 manner as if those benefits were regular compensa-
15 tion.”.

16 **SEC. 3. SUNSETTING FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT**
17 **COMPENSATION.**

18 Section 2104(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the CARES Act (15
19 U.S.C. 9023(b)(3)(A)(ii)) is amended by striking “Sep-
20 tember 6, 2021” and inserting “the date of enactment of
21 the Back to Work Bonus Act”.

22 **SEC. 4. STRENGTHENING WORK SEARCH REQUIREMENTS.**

23 (a) **MODIFYING PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSIST-**
24 **ANCE.**—Section 2102(a)(3)(A)(ii)(I) of the CARES Act

1 (15 U.S.C. 9021(a)(3)(A)(ii)(I)) is amended by striking
2 items (aa) through (kk) and inserting the following:

3 “(aa) the individual has an
4 active infection with COVID–19;

5 “(bb) the individual received
6 an order from a physician to
7 quarantine due to exposure to
8 COVID–19; or

9 “(cc) the individual is caring
10 for a family member or a mem-
11 ber of the individual’s household
12 described in items (aa) or (bb);
13 or”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 2102(c)
15 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9021(c)) is amended by—

16 (1) inserting at the end of paragraph (6) the
17 following: “A State shall require proof of active in-
18 fection or quarantine order required by subsection
19 (a)(3)(A)(ii)(I).”; and

20 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as
21 paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively.

22 (c) MODIFYING PANDEMIC EMERGENCY UNEMPLOY-
23 MENT COMPENSATION.—Section 2107(a)(7) of the
24 CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9025(a)(7)) is amended by strik-
25 ing subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

1 “(B) FLEXIBILITY.—

2 “(i) Notwithstanding the requirements
3 under subparagraph (A) and paragraph
4 (2)(D), a State may provide flexibility in
5 meeting such requirements in case of indi-
6 viduals unable to search for work be-
7 cause—

8 “(I) the individual has an active
9 infection with COVID-19;

10 “(II) the individual received an
11 order from a physician to quarantine
12 due to exposure to COVID-19; or

13 “(III) the individual is caring for
14 a family member or a member of the
15 individual’s household described in
16 subclause (I) or (II).

17 “(ii) Prior to providing flexibility
18 under this subparagraph, a State shall re-
19 quire proof of active infection or quar-
20 antine order required by subclause (I) or
21 (II).”.