
DIGEST

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Alfred Williams

HB No. 534

Abstract: Provides for the suspension of recreational hunting and fishing licenses for persons with overdue unemployment compensation benefits overpayment obligations.

Present law provides that the commission may enforce the collection of overpayment of unemployment compensation benefits by means of assessment and executory procedure.

Present law provides that after an exhaustion or prescription of appeal rights of an obligor, the commission may file with the Dept. of Revenue against any income tax refund, to collect overpayment.

Proposed law provides definitions to be used throughout proposed law.

Proposed law provides that the commission may notify an obligor by certified mail of an overpayment delinquency and the intention of the commission to submit the obligor's name to the licensing agency for a suspension of license.

Proposed law provides in the notice of delinquency, the commission shall also notify the obligor where he can file an objection of the suspension of his license, the amount the obligor owes, and what the obligor must do to bring himself into compliance.

Proposed law provides the procedure to the license suspension, which includes a written objection if the obligor wishes to object, an administrative hearing, a certification of noncompliance, and the suspension of the license.

Proposed law provides the time periods for the suspension and reinstatement of a license.

Proposed law provides that the certification of noncompliance and the compliance release certificate may be issued electronically.

Proposed law provides that upon payment of any delinquencies, the commission shall issue a compliance release certificate which shall indicate that the obligor is eligible to have his license reissued.

Proposed law provides that the licensing authority shall issue, reissue, renew, or otherwise extend the obligor's license upon receipt of the compliance release certificate.

Present law (R.S. 56:647) provides for the suspension or denial of a hunting or fishing license for failure to pay child support or individual income tax.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides for the suspension or denial of a recreational hunting or fishing license for failure to pay an unemployment compensation overpayment obligation.

(Amends R.S. 56:647(A) and (B); Adds R.S. 23:1749.1-1749.8)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to the original bill.

1. Clarified that proposed law shall apply to licenses issued to fish or hunt recreationally.
2. Provided that an obligor is an individual obligated to repay an overpayment of unemployment compensation obtained fraudulently.
3. Provided that the certification of noncompliance and the compliance release certificate may be issued electronically and deletes the option to issue them in writing.
4. Deleted the requirement that each licensee be notified that his license has been suspended.
5. Deleted the requirement that the licensing authority issue a notice of suspension.