

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility for unemployment benefits of a person receiving certain forms of remuneration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 207.049, Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 207.049. RECEIPT OF REMUNERATION. (a) An individual is disqualified for benefits for a benefit period for which the individual is receiving or has received remuneration in the form of:

(1) wages in lieu of notice;

(2) severance pay; or

(3) [~~(2)~~] compensation under a state worker's compensation law or a similar law of the United States for:

(A) temporary partial disability;

(B) temporary total disability; or

(C) total and permanent disability.

(b) In this section, "severance pay" means dismissal or separation income paid on termination of employment in addition to the employee's usual earnings from the employer at the time of termination. The term does not include any remuneration received by an employee under:

(1) a release of claims or settlement agreement entered into between the employee and the employer:

1 (A) based on an alleged violation of the Civil
2 Rights Act of 1991 (Pub. L. No. 102-166); or

3 (B) pursuant to a claim or cause of action filed
4 in connection with the employment relationship; or

5 (2) a written contract, including a collective
6 bargaining agreement, negotiated with the employer before the date
7 of separation from employment of the employee.

8 (c) The commission may adopt rules as necessary to
9 administer this section.

10 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
11 to a claim for unemployment compensation benefits that is filed
12 with the Texas Workforce Commission on or after the effective date
13 of this Act. A claim filed before the effective date of this Act is
14 governed by the law in effect on the date the claim was filed, and
15 the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 14 was passed by the House on May 12, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 14 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor