

Management Proposal

11/19/15

Unemployment Insurance Reforms

1. **Suitable Work** – Define suitable work under sec. 108.04 (8), during the first 6 weeks of unemployment, to be “work that pays the claimant 75% or more of what they previously earned during the high quarter and does not involve a lower grade of skill relative to that of their most recent employment.”

After six weeks of unemployment, suitable work would be defined as “any work that the individual is capable of performing, whether or not they have any experience or training, that pays wages that are above the lowest quartile of wages for similar work in the region.”

2. **Good Cause** – Define “good cause” under sec. 108.04 (8) relating circumstances under which a claimant can turn down an offer of suitable work as “a compelling reason which would give the claimant no alternative but to refuse.”
3. **Workers Compensation** – Create a rebuttable presumption that a claimant is unavailable for suitable employment for any week in which the claimant is receiving, has received or has filed for temporary total disability, or permanent total disability benefits under the workers compensation program.
4. **Requalifying Requirements** – Increase the earning requirement that has to be met under s.108.04 (7) in order to requalify for unemployment benefits after a quit from 6 times the weekly benefit rate to 10 times the weekly benefit rate.

Similarly, increase the earning requirement that has to be met by a claimant that has failed to accept suitable work under s.108.04 (8) from 6 times the weekly benefit rate to 10 times the weekly benefit rate in order to requalify for unemployment benefits.

5. **Wage Data and Classifications** – Make wage data and classification definitions available to the public on line. Provide a clear process for resolving disputes over how a job is classified and how the average wage for a particular classification in a region is established.

5/19/15