

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H3/6/25 H3/17/25

## A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1582

By: Representatives McAlindon, Rose, Underwood

By: Senator J. English

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES LAW; TO REQUIRE THE *STATE-MAINTAINED JOB BOARD* TO MATCH AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A JOB; TO *ENCOURAGE* AN INDIVIDUAL TO APPLY FOR A JOB AS PART OF HIS OR HER WORK SEARCH CONTACTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

*TO REQUIRE CERTAIN ACTIONS AND ENCOURAGE CERTAIN ACTIONS FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS UNDER THE DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES LAW.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-10-507(a)(2), concerning the registration and reporting requirement for eligibility for benefits under the Division of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

(2) Registration and Reporting. He or she has registered for work at and thereafter continued to report to a Division of Workforce Services office in accordance with such rules as the director may prescribe, and has created an account on the state-maintained job board listing his or her work experience, credentials or licenses held or earned, and any relevant job information. The director, by rule, may waive or alter either or both of the requirements of this subdivision (a)(2) as to individuals attached to regular jobs and as to such other types of cases or situations with respect to which he or she finds that compliance with these requirements would be oppressive or would be inconsistent with the purpose of this chapter.



However, no such rules shall conflict with § 11-10-501;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 11-10-507(b), concerning required work search contacts under the Division of Workforce Services Law, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(3) of this section, the division shall require at least five (5) work search contacts per week in which an individual submits a claim for benefits.

(B) An individual submitting a claim for benefits shall report to the division the five (5) work search contacts made during the week required under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section as part of the weekly certification process.

(2)(A)(i) The state-maintained job board shall match open jobs posted on the state-maintained job board with an individual submitting a claim for benefits.

(ii) As used in this section, "match" means that the qualifications of the individual correspond to at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the requirements of the open job, as calculated by the state-maintained job board.

(B)(i) An individual who matches with five (5) or more open jobs on the state-maintained job board is encouraged to apply to the top ranked five (5) open jobs to meet the requirements of his or her work search contacts under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

(ii) An individual who matches with fewer than five (5) open jobs is encouraged to apply to those matching open jobs as well as any other open jobs on the state-maintained job board to meet the requirements of his or her work search contacts under subdivision (b)(1) of this section.

(3) If an individual fails to complete and report the number of work search contacts required under subdivision (b)(1) of this section during a week in which he or she submits a claim for benefits, the individual is not eligible for benefits for that week.

~~(3)~~(4) The division shall audit at least one hundred (100) of all weekly work search reports for work search verification each week.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on and after January

1, 2026.

*/s/McAlindon*