

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1269**

Introduced by

Representative Keiser

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 52-06-02 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to disqualification from unemployment compensation benefits.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 52-06-02 of the 1997 Supplement  
5 to the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 1. For the week in which he has left his most recent employment voluntarily without  
7 good cause attributable to the employer, and thereafter until such time as he:

8 a. Can demonstrate that he has earned remuneration for personal services in  
9 employment equivalent to at least eight times his weekly benefit amount as  
10 determined under section 52-06-04; and

11 b. Has not left his most recent employment under disqualifying circumstances.

12 A temporary employee of a temporary help firm is deemed to have left  
13 employment voluntarily if the employee does not contact the temporary help firm  
14 for reassignment before filing for benefits. Failure to contact the temporary help  
15 firm is not deemed a voluntary leaving of employment unless the claimant was  
16 advised of the obligation to contact the temporary help firm upon completion of an  
17 assignment and advised that unemployment benefits may be denied for failure to  
18 contact the temporary help firm. As used in this subsection, "temporary employee"  
19 means an employee assigned to work for a client of a temporary help firm; and  
20 "temporary help firm" means a firm that hires that firm's own employees and  
21 assigns these employees to a client to support or supplement the client's work  
22 force in a work situation such as employee absence, temporary skill shortage,  
23 seasonal workload, a special assignment, and a special project.

1           This subsection does not apply if the bureau determines that the individual in  
2           an active claim filing status accepted work which the individual could have refused  
3           with good cause under section 52-06-36 and terminated such employment with the  
4           same good cause and within the first ten weeks after starting work.

5           This subsection does not apply if the individual left employment or remains  
6           away from employment following illness or injury upon a physician's written notice  
7           or order; no benefits may be paid under this exception unless the employee has  
8           notified the employer of the physician's requirement and has offered service for  
9           suitable work to the employer upon the individual's capability of returning to  
10          employment. This exception does not apply unless the individual's capability of  
11          returning to employment and offer of service for suitable work to the employer  
12          occurs within sixty days of the last day of work. However, the cost of any benefits  
13          paid under this exception may not be charged against the account of the employer  
14          from whom the individual became separated as a result of the illness or injury. The  
15          bureau may request and designate a licensed physician to provide a second  
16          opinion regarding the claimant's qualification; however, no individual may be  
17          charged fees of any kind for the cost of such second opinion.

18          This subsection does not apply if the individual left the most recent  
19          employment because of an injury or illness caused or aggravated by the  
20          employment; no benefits may be paid under this exception unless the individual  
21          leaves employment upon a physician's written notice or order, the individual has  
22          notified the employer of the physician's requirement, and there is no reasonable  
23          alternative but to leave employment.

24          For the purpose of this subsection, an individual who left the most recent  
25          employment in anticipation of discharge or layoff must be deemed to have left  
26          employment voluntarily and without good cause attributable to the employer.

27          For the purpose of this subsection, "most recent employment" means  
28          employment with any employer for whom the claimant last worked and voluntarily  
29          quit without good cause attributable to the employer or with any employer, in  
30          insured work, for whom the claimant last worked and earned wages equal to or  
31          exceeding eight times his weekly benefit amount.

1                    This subsection does not apply if the individual leaves work which is two  
2                    hundred road miles [321.87 kilometers] or more, as measured on a one-way basis,  
3                    from the individual's home to accept work which is less than two hundred road  
4                    miles [321.87 kilometers] from the individual's home provided the work is a bona  
5                    fide job offer with a reasonable expectation of continued employment.