

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Authorizing the use of unemployment insurance data by welfare agencies

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Overview

As a general rule, data gathered pursuant to the administration of Minnesota's unemployment insurance law are either private data on individuals or nonpublic data not on individuals. (Both kinds of data are available only to the subject of the data or with the subject's consent.) Generally these data cannot be disclosed unless (1) there is a court order, or (2) a designated state official has a duty to disseminate the data.

Current Minnesota law identifies 11 exceptions to the general rule that unemployment insurance data cannot be disclosed, each of which allows disclosure to state and/or federal agencies in the absence of consent by the subject of the data. This bill creates another exception to the general rule to permit the disclosure of unemployment insurance data to local and state welfare agencies for the purpose of assisting in the collection of an overpayment debt.

Section

- 1 Use of data.** Permits the dissemination of unemployment insurance data, without the consent of the subject of the data, to local and state welfare agencies for the purpose of identifying employment, wages, and other information that will assist in the collection of debt generated by overpayment in an assistance program.