

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 3296

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**Version:** First Engrossment

**Authors:** Johnson and others

**Subject:** Unemployment Compensation/Independent Contractors

**Analyst:** Anita Neumann, 651-296-5056

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H.F. 3296 requires the commissioner of DEED to audit trucking industry employers to determine whether a pattern of improper classification of owner-operators as independent contractors exists. The commissioner is also directed to target additional audits at companies found by courts or regulators in other jurisdictions to have improperly misclassified owner-operators as independent contractors. This portion of the proposal is effective beginning October 1, 2008, and expires June 30, 2010. The commissioner must also report back to the legislature on the audit findings by October 1, 2010.

The bill also specifies that the current statute outlining the criteria that must be met in order for owner-operators in the trucking industry to be considered independent contractors for the purposes of the state's unemployment compensation laws does not apply to parcel delivery drivers who deliver shipments less than 250 pounds per parcel.