

House Bill 404

By: Representatives Yates of the 73<sup>rd</sup>, Orrock of the 58<sup>th</sup>, Lakly of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Freeman of the 140<sup>th</sup>, Warren of the 122<sup>nd</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 34-8-194 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 grounds for disqualification of unemployment benefits, so as to provide that leaving an  
3 employer because of the transfer of a spouse from one military assignment to another shall  
4 not disqualify a person from such benefits; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 34-8-194 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to grounds for  
8 disqualification of unemployment benefits, is amended by striking in its entirety paragraph  
9 (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

10 "(1) For the week or fraction thereof in which the individual has filed an otherwise valid  
11 claim for benefits after such individual has left the most recent employer voluntarily  
12 without good cause in connection with the individual's most recent work. Good cause  
13 shall be determined by the Commissioner according to the circumstances in the case;  
14 provided, however, that leaving an employer to accompany a spouse who has been  
15 reassigned from one military assignment to another shall be deemed to be for good  
16 cause; provided, however, that the employer's account shall not be charged for any  
17 benefits paid out to the person who leaves to accompany a spouse reassigned from one  
18 military assignment to another. To requalify following a disqualification, an individual  
19 must secure subsequent employment for which the individual earns insured wages equal  
20 to at least ten times the weekly benefit amount of the claim and then becomes  
21 unemployed through no fault on the part of the individual. Notwithstanding the foregoing,  
22 in the Commissioner's determination the burden of proof of good work connected cause  
23 for voluntarily leaving such work shall be on the individual. Benefits shall not be denied  
24 under this paragraph, however, to an individual for separation from employment pursuant  
25 to a labor management contract or agreement or pursuant to an established employer plan,

1 program, policy, layoff, or recall which permits the individual, because of lack of work,  
2 to accept a separation from employment;"

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.