

Labor and Public Employees Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-805

Title: AN ACT CONCERNING THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND DATA BREACHES.

Vote Date: 3/16/2023

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/7/2023

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor and Public Employees Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would require the Labor Commissioner to conduct a study on data breaches and false unemployment claims suffered by the department. This study would be conducted in order to address security concerns regarding data, and to protect the state from fraudulent unemployment claims, and the associated cost of such fraudulent claims.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None submitted.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Sen. Rob Sampson, 16th District: In his testimony, he expressed concerns about the security of unemployment claimants' data and past and future data breaches at the Department of Labor. He stated that he was alarmed by what he sees as an increase of fraudulent unemployment claims. He testified in support of the study, saying it was a first step in the right direction.

Rep. Vincent Candelora, 86th District: In his written testimony, he argued that there need to be clear data privacy standards and protocols put in place regarding how data is handled, shared, and how data breaches are responded to. He stated that a study will help to determine what has gone wrong and what the General Assembly and Department of Labor can do to remedy these past mistakes. Rep. Candelora also recommended that the committee look at a similar bill he proposed (H.B. No. 6249) which applies the same data privacy standards of private entities to the states' agencies.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None expressed.

Reported by: Rebecca Wozniak

Date: 3/21/2023