

HB 2034 -- EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

SPONSOR: Sassmann

This bill establishes the "Employment Security Program Integrity Act of 2024" and defines terms such as "Department of Corrections," "Division," "Employment security rolls," "National data check system," "New-hire records," and "Welfare agency" for the purpose of this Act.

This bill requires the Division of Employment Security to engage with and utilize a national data check system to verify the eligibility of unemployment compensation benefit claimants. Regular checks against incarcerated individuals, state death records, and new-hire records are necessary to ensure the accuracy of employment security rolls.

The bill specifies methods for verifying the identity of unemployment compensation benefit claimants, including multi-factor authentication.

This bill requires that the Division conduct eligibility reviews for suspicious or potentially improper claims, including those from the same internet protocol address, foreign addresses, or associated with the same mailing address or bank account. Welfare agencies are required to notify the Division when an enrolled individual becomes employed.

This bill allows the Division to pursue the recovery of fraudulent or improper unemployment compensation benefit overpayments and mandates an annual report to the General Assembly on these efforts. The Division is authorized to enter into a memorandum of understanding with other state entities to share necessary information. This bill allows for the promulgation of rules and regulations by the Division for the administration of this section.