GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

Senate Bill 116, "AN ACT TO WITHDRAW FROM THE FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (FPUC) AND THE MIXED EARNERS UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (MEUC) AGREEMENT, TO APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES THE SUM OF TWO HUNDRED FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT, TO REQUIRE INDIVIDUALS TO RESPOND TO EMPLOYER REQUESTS, AND TO MAKE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE LAWS."

Unemployment is declining with more people getting vaccinated and into the workforce as North Carolina has strengthened work search requirements for those receiving benefits. The federal help that this bill cuts off will only last a few more weeks and it supplements North Carolina’s state benefits, which are among the stingiest in the country. Prematurely stopping these benefits hurts our state by sending back money that could be injected into our economy with people using it for things like food and rent. I support strong efforts to make more quality childcare available and to provide businesses with funds for hiring bonuses and the bill falls short on both of these.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

[Signature]
Roy Cooper
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 2nd day of July 2021, at 1:18 p.m. for reconsideration by that body.
if the violation would impact the individual's eligibility to receive benefits. The Division shall utilize a private third-party firm if necessary to satisfy the audit requirements of this subsection.

SECTION 4.(b) G.S. 96-14.11 reads as rewritten:
"§ 96-14.11. Disqualification for the remaining weeks of the benefit period.

(b1) Interview Response. – An individual is disqualified for any remaining benefits if the Division determines that the individual has failed, without good cause, to satisfy any of the requirements set forth in G.S. 96-14.9(f1) three or more times during a benefit year.

SECTION 4.(c) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to claims with weekly certification under G.S. 96-14.9 filed on or after that date.

SECTION 5. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 24th day of June, 2021.

Mark Robinson
President of the Senate

Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved __________ m. this __________ day of ________________, 2021

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date July 2, 2021
Time 1:18 p.m.
Signed Leigh Bipple