Bill Summary 1st Session of the 58th Legislature

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Bill Analysis

SB 794 requires the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC) to shift its filing methods to prefer electronic e-filing and provides for the Commission to complete the process during its OESC 2020-21 business process transformation. All claimants and employers tendering documents to the Commission will be expected to tender the documents electronically. The measure also exempts employees of private for-profit entities that provide to or on behalf of an educational institution from the requirement to pay unemployment benefits in on the same terms and subject to the same conditions as benefits payable on the basis of other service subject to the Employment Security Act of 1980.

Additionally, the measure specifies that an individual, seasonal employee shall only be eligible for payments based on the wages of the nonseasonal employment. The OESC is required by the measure to send notice of overpayment to any individual receiving more compensation than he or she is entitled to. If the individual disagrees with this determination, the individual may file an appeal of the determination with the Appeal Tribunal within 10 days of receipt. The OESC is also authorized to enter into an agreement with the Department of Human Services for information required to identify persons that owe child support obligations. The measure also requires the OESC to return overpayments received in the Employer's Unemployment Tax Account. The measure directs the OESC to return the remaining balance of the employer's unemployment tax account to the employer upon terminating the employer's account, unless the balance has remained the same for over 180 days and the employer has not requested a refund.

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