1117

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 8, 2015

Introduced by Sen. PERALTA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to the unemployment insurance law, increasing the maximum benefit rate for unemployment insurance

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 518 of the labor law, as amended by section 1 of part 0 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

4 (a) "Wages" means all remuneration paid, except that such term does 5 not include remuneration paid to an employee by an employer after eight 6 thousand five hundred dollars have been paid to such employee by such 7 employer with respect to employment during any calendar year, except 8 that such term does not include remuneration paid to an employee by an 9 employer with respect to employment during any calendar year beginning 10 with the first day of

11			that exceeds
12	January	2014	\$10,300
13	January	2015	\$10,500
14	January	2016	[\$10,700] \$12,500
15	January	2017	[\$10,900
16	January	2018	\$11,100
17	January	2019	\$11,400
18	January	2020	\$11,600
19	January	2021	\$11,800
20	January	2022	\$12,000
21	January	2023	\$12,300
22	January	2024	\$12,500
23	January	2025	\$12,800
24	January	2026	\$13,000

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EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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and each year thereafter on the first day of January that exceeds 1 2 sixteen percent of the state's average annual wage as determined by the 3 commissioner on an annual basis pursuant to section five hundred twen-4 ty-nine of this article; provided, however, that in calculating such 5 maximum amount of remuneration, the amount arrived at by multiplying the 6 state's average annual wage times sixteen percent shall be rounded up to 7 the nearest hundred dollars. In no event shall the state's annual aver-8 age wage be reduced from the amount determined in the previous year] 9 \$13,500

10 IN EACH SUCCEEDING CALENDAR YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CALCULATE THE BASE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION NECESSARY FROM WHICH TO PRODUCE 11 SUFFICIENT 12 PROVIDE FOR THE ANNUAL INCREASES IN MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT PREMIUM то 13 PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ARTICLE, AND OTHER FUNDING FOR THE UNEMPLOYMENT 14 INSURANCE TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY OF THIS 15 ARTICLE, AS MAY BE NECESSARY. The term "employment" includes for the purposes of this subdivision services constituting employment under any 16 unemployment compensation law of another state or the United States. 17

18 S 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 590 of the labor law, 19 as amended by section 8 of part 0 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2013, is 20 amended to read as follows:

21 (a) A claimant's weekly benefit amount shall be one twenty-sixth of 22 remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base the period by employers, liable for contributions or payments in lieu of 23 24 contributions under this article, provided the claimant has remuneration 25 in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or paid alternate base period. However, for any claimant who has remuneration 26 paid in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or 27 alternate base period and whose high calendar quarter remuneration 28 29 during the base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five 30 dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period 31 32 employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contribby 33 utions under this article. A claimant's weekly benefit shall be one twenty-sixth of the average remuneration paid in the two highest quar-34 ters paid during the base period or alternate base period by employers 35 liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this 36 37 article when the claimant has remuneration paid in two or three calendar quarters provided however, that a claimant whose high calendar quarter is four thousand dollars or less but greater than three thousand five 38 39 40 hundred seventy-five dollars shall have a weekly benefit amount of one twenty-sixth of such high calendar quarter. However, for any claimant 41 who has remuneration paid in two or three calendar quarters during his 42 43 or her base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar 44 quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five 45 hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quar-46 47 ter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments 48 in lieu of contributions under this article. Any claimant whose high 49 calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is more than three 50 thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars shall not have a weekly bene-51 fit amount less than one hundred forty-three dollars. The weekly benefit amount, so computed, that is not a multiple of one dollar shall be 52 [lowered to] the next multiple of one dollar. On the first Monday of 53 54 September, nineteen hundred ninety-eight the weekly benefit amount shall 55 not exceed three hundred sixty-five dollars nor be less than forty dollars, until the first Monday of September, two thousand, at which 56

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time the maximum benefit payable pursuant to this subdivision shall 1 2 equal one-half of the state average weekly wage for covered employment 3 as calculated by the department no sooner than July first, two thousand and no later than August first, two thousand, rounded [down] to the 4 5 [lowest] NEXT dollar. On and after the first Monday of October, two 6 thousand fourteen, the weekly benefit shall not be less than one hundred 7 dollars, nor shall it exceed four hundred twenty dollars until the first 8 Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand fifteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be four hundred [twenty-five] SEVENTY-FIVE dollars, until 9 10 first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand sixteen when the maxithe 11 mum benefit amount shall be [four] FIVE hundred [thirty] TWENTY-FIVE dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand seven-teen when the maximum benefit amount shall be [four] SIX hundred [thir-12 13 14 ty-five] dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand 15 eighteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be [four] SIX hundred fifty dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand 16 nineteen when the maximum benefit amount shall [be thirty-six percent of 17 18 average weekly wage until the first Monday of October, two thousand the 19 twenty when the maximum benefit amount shall be thirty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October two thousand twenty-one when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty percent of the 20 21 average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand 22 twenty-two when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-two percent of 23 the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand 24 25 twenty-three when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-four percent 26 of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-four when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-six 27 percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, 28 29 thousand twenty-five when the maximum benefit amount shall be two forty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday 30 31 of October, two thousand twenty-six and each year thereafter on the 32 first Monday of October when the maximum benefit amount shall be fifty 33 percent of the average weekly wage provided, however, that in no event 34 shall the maximum benefit amount be reduced from the previous year] STATE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE AS CALCULATED BY THE 35 EOUAL ONE-HALF OF THE DEPARTMENT NO SOONER THAN JULY FIRST, TWO 36 THOUSAND NINETEEN AND NOT LATER THAN AUGUST FIRST, TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN AND ON JULY FIRST OF EACH 37 38 SUCCEEDING YEAR THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT SHALL EQUAL ONE-HALF OF THE STATE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE AS CALCULATED BY THE DEPARTMENT ANNUALLY PURSUANT TO 39 40 THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBDIVISION. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVI-SION, THE TERM "STATE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE" SHALL MEAN THE AVERAGE WEEKLY 41 42 STATE FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR AS REPORTED BY THE WAGE OF THE 43 COMMISSIONER TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES ON MARCH THIR-44 TY-FIRST. 45 This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all S 3.

45 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all 46 claims filed on and after the effective date of this act; provided, 47 however, that section one of this act shall take effect on the thirtieth 48 day after it shall have become a law.