## 1117--A

## 2015-2016 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 8, 2015

- Introduced by Sens. PERALTA, AVELLA, SQUADRON -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Labor -recommitted to the Committee on Labor in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee
- 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:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 518 of the labor 2 law, as amended by section 1 of part 0 of chapter 57 of the laws of 3 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
15	January 2017	[\$10,900] \$12,500
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

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

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11 \$13,500 IN EACH SUCCEEDING CALENDAR YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CALCULATE THE BASE AMOUNT OF REMUMERATION NECESSARY FROM WHICH TO PRODUCE SUFFICIENT PREMIUM TO PROVIDE FOR THE ANNUAL INCREASES IN MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFIT PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ARTICLE, AND OTHER FUNDING FOR THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TRUST FUND PURSUANT TO SECTION FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY OF THIS ARTICLE, AS MAY BE NECESSARY. The term "employment" includes for the purposes of this subdivision services constituting employment under any unemployment compensation law of another state or the United States. S 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by section 8 of part 0 of chapter 57 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows: (a) A claimant's weekly benefit amount shall be one twenty-sixth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers, liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article, provided the claimant has remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar quarter remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or alternate base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the areuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the semuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contrib- utions under this article. A claimant's weekly benefit shall be one twenty-sixth of the average remuneration paid in the two highest quar- ters paid during the base period or alternate base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contrib- utions under this article. A claimant's weekly benefit shall be one twenty-
the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers, liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article, provided the claimant has remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or alternate base period. However, for any claimant who has remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during his or her base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contrib- tuions under this article. A claimant's weekly benefit shall be one twenty-sixth of the average remuneration paid in the two highest quar- ters paid during the base period or alternate base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contrib- set the period during the base period or alternate base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this 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
42 hundred seventy-five dollars shall have a weekly benefit amount of one 43 twenty-sixth of such high calendar quarter. However, for any claimant 44 who has remuneration paid in two or three calendar quarters during his 45 or her base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar 46 quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five 47 hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one 48 twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quar- 49 ter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments 50 in lieu of contributions under this article. Any claimant whose high 51 calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is more than three 52 thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars shall not have a weekly bene- 53 fit amount less than one hundred forty-three dollars. The weekly benefit 54 amount, so computed, that is not a multiple of one dollar shall be

not exceed three hundred sixty-five dollars nor be less than forty dollars, until the first Monday of September, two thousand, at which 1 2 3 time the maximum benefit payable pursuant to this subdivision shall 4 equal one-half of the state average weekly wage for covered employment 5 as calculated by the department no sooner than July first, two thousand 6 no later than August first, two thousand, rounded [down] to the and 7 [lowest] NEXT dollar. On and after the first Monday of October, two 8 thousand fourteen, the weekly benefit shall not be less than one hundred dollars, nor shall it exceed four hundred twenty dollars until the first 9 10 Monday of October, two thousand fifteen when the maximum benefit amount 11 shall be four hundred twenty-five dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand sixteen when the maximum benefit amount 12 shall be four hundred [thirty] SEVENTY-FIVE dollars, until the first 13 14 Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand seventeen when the maximum bene-15 fit amount shall be [four] FIVE hundred [thirty-five] TWENTY-FIVE 16 dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand eighteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be [four] SIX hundred [fifty] 17 18 dollars, until the first Monday of [October] JULY, two thousand nineteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be [thirty-six percent of the average weekly wage] SIX HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS, until the first Monday 19 20 21 of [October] JULY, two thousand twenty when the maximum benefit amount 22 shall [be thirty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the 23 first Monday of October two thousand twenty-one when the maximum benefit 24 amount shall be forty percent of the average weekly wage, until the 25 first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-two when the maximum bene-26 fit amount shall be forty-two percent of the average weekly wage, until 27 first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-three when the maximum the benefit amount shall be forty-four percent of the average weekly wage, 28 until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-four when the 29 30 maximum benefit amount shall be forty-six percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-five when 31 32 the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-six 33 and each year thereafter on the first Monday of October when the maximum 34 benefit amount shall be fifty percent of the average weekly wage 35 however, that in no event shall the maximum benefit amount be 36 provided, 37 reduced from the previous year] EQUAL ONE-HALF OF THESTATE AVERAGE 38 WEEKLY WAGE AS CALCULATED BY THE DEPARTMENT NO SOONER THAN JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY AND NOT LATER THAN AUGUST FIRST, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY 39 40 AND ON JULY FIRST OF EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR THE MAXIMUM BENEFIT SHALL THE STATE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE AS CALCULATED BY THE 41 EOUAL ONE-HALF OF DEPARTMENT ANNUALLY PURSUANT TO THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN 42 THIS SUBDIVI-SION. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE TERM "STATE AVERAGE WEEKLY 43 44 WAGE" SHALL MEAN THE AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE OF THE STATE FOR THE PREVIOUS 45 CALENDAR YEAR AS REPORTED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES ON MARCH THIRTY-FIRST. 46

47 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all 48 claims filed on and after the effective date of this act; provided, 49 however, that section one of this act shall take effect on the thirtieth 50 day after it shall have become a law.