

4854

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 8, 2011

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Introduced by M. of A. CROUCH -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Labor

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to unemployment benefits for  
part-time workers; and to repeal certain provisions of the labor law  
relating thereto

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

1     Section 1. The labor law is amended by adding two new sections 514-a  
2     and 514-b to read as follows:  
3     S 514-A. PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT. "PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT" MEANS THAT  
4     PART OF THE COMPENSATION, IF ANY, PAID TO A CLAIMANT WITH RESPECT TO A  
5     WEEK FOR WHICH BENEFITS ARE CLAIMED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE  
6     WHICH IS NOT IN EXCESS OF TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S  
7     WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE.  
8     S 514-B. EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT. "EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT"  
9     MEANS TWENTY-FIVE PER CENTUM OF THE TOTAL REMUNERATION PAID TO A CLAIM-  
10    ANT IN EXCESS OF THE PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT, PROVIDED THAT WHEN ADDED TO  
11    THE PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT A CLAIMANT'S EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT  
12    CANNOT EXCEED FIFTY PER CENTUM OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE.  
13    S 2. Section 522 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 720 of the  
14    laws of 1953, is amended to read as follows:  
15    S 522. Total unemployment AND PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT. "Total unemploy-  
16    ment" means the total lack of any employment [on any day] DURING ANY  
17    WEEK. "PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT" MEANS ANY EMPLOYMENT DURING ANY WEEK THAT  
18    IS LESS THAN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT SO LONG AS THE COMPENSATION PAID IS  
19    LESS THAN THE CLAIMANT'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE PLUS THE CLAIMANT'S PARTIAL  
20    BENEFIT CREDIT PLUS THE EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT. The term "employ-  
21    ment" as used in this section means any employment including that not  
22    defined in this title.  
23    S 3. Section 523 of the labor law is REPEALED and a new section 523 is  
24    added to read as follows:

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

LBD05062-02-1

1 S 523. EFFECTIVE WEEK. "EFFECTIVE WEEK" MEANS (A) A WEEK DURING WHICH  
2 A CLAIMANT PERFORMS NO SERVICES FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANT IS PAID COMPEN-  
3 SATION, OR (B) A WEEK DURING WHICH A CLAIMANT PERFORMS SERVICES ON A  
4 PART-TIME BASIS FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANT IS PAID COMPENSATION THAT IS LESS  
5 THAN THE CLAIMANT'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE PLUS HIS OR HER PARTIAL BENEFIT  
6 CREDIT PLUS THE EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT.

7 S 4. Subdivision 4 of section 527 of the labor law, as amended by  
8 chapter 832 of the laws of 1968 and as renumbered by chapter 381 of the  
9 laws of 1984, is amended to read as follows:

10 4. General condition. A valid original claim may be filed only in a  
11 week [in which the claimant has at least one effective day of unemploy-  
12 ment] THAT QUALIFIES AS AN EFFECTIVE WEEK OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE CLAIM-  
13 ANT.

14 S 5. Subparagraph 2 of paragraph (e) of subdivision 1 of section 581  
15 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 282 of the laws of 2002 and  
16 clause (v) as added by chapter 106 of the laws of 2007, is amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (2) Benefits payable to any claimant with respect to the claimant's  
19 then current benefit year shall be charged, when paid, to the account of  
20 the last employer prior to the filing of a valid original claim in an  
21 amount equal to seven times the claimant's benefit rate. Thereafter,  
22 such charges shall be made to the account of each employer in the base  
23 period used to establish the valid original claim in the same proportion  
24 that the remuneration paid by each employer to the claimant during that  
25 base period bears to the remuneration paid by all employers to the  
26 claimant during that base period except as provided below:

27 (i) In those instances where the claimant may not utilize wages paid  
28 to establish entitlement based upon subdivision ten of section five  
29 hundred ninety of this article and an educational institution is the  
30 claimant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for benefits,  
31 or the claimant performed services in such educational institution in  
32 such capacity while employed by an educational service agency which is  
33 the claimant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for bene-  
34 fits, such employer shall not be liable for benefit charges for the  
35 first [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFECTIVE WEEKS of benefits  
36 paid as otherwise provided by this section. Under such circumstances,  
37 benefits paid shall be charged to the general account. In addition,  
38 wages paid during the base period by such educational institutions, or  
39 for services in such educational institutions for claimants employed by  
40 an educational service agency shall not be considered base period wages  
41 during periods that such wages may not be used to gain entitlement to  
42 benefits pursuant to subdivision ten of section five hundred ninety of  
43 this article.

44 (ii) In those instances where the claimant may not utilize wages paid  
45 to establish entitlement based upon subdivision eleven of section five  
46 hundred ninety of this article and an educational institution is the  
47 claimant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for benefits,  
48 or the claimant performed services in such educational institution in  
49 such capacity while employed by an educational service agency which is  
50 the claimant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for bene-  
51 fits, such employer shall not be liable for benefit charges for the  
52 first [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFECTIVE WEEKS of benefits  
53 paid as otherwise provided by this section. Under such circumstances,  
54 benefits paid will be charged to the general account. In addition, wages  
55 paid during the base period by such educational institutions, or for  
56 services in such educational institutions for claimants employed by an

1 educational service agency shall not be considered base period wages  
2 during periods that such wages may not be used to gain entitlement to  
3 benefits pursuant to subdivision eleven of section five hundred ninety  
4 of this article. However, in those instances where a claimant was not  
5 afforded an opportunity to perform services for the educational institu-  
6 tion for the next academic year or term after reasonable assurance was  
7 provided, such employer shall be liable for benefit charges as provided  
8 for in this paragraph for any retroactive payments made to the claimant.

9 (iii) In those instances where the federal government is the claim-  
10 ant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for benefits and  
11 such employer is not a base-period employer, payments equaling the first  
12 [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFECTIVE WEEKS of benefits as  
13 otherwise prescribed by this section shall be charged to the general  
14 account. In those instances where the federal government is the claim-  
15 ant's last employer prior to the filing of the claim for benefits and a  
16 base-period employer, such employer shall be liable for charges for all  
17 benefits paid on such claim in the same proportion that the remuneration  
18 paid by such employer during the base period bears to the remuneration  
19 paid by all employers during the base period. In addition, benefit  
20 payment charges for the first [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFEC-  
21 TIVE WEEKS of benefits other than those chargeable to the federal  
22 government as prescribed above shall be made to the general account.

23 (iv) In those instances where a combined wage claim is filed pursuant  
24 to interstate reciprocal agreements and the claimant's last employer  
25 prior to the filing of the claim is an out-of-state employer and such  
26 employer is not a base-period employer, benefit payments equaling the  
27 first [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFECTIVE WEEKS of benefits as  
28 otherwise prescribed by this section shall be charged to the general  
29 account. In those instances where the out-of-state employer is the last  
30 employer prior to the filing of the claim for benefits and a base-period  
31 employer such employer shall be liable for charges for all benefits paid  
32 on such claim in the same proportion that the remuneration paid by such  
33 employer during the base period bears to the remuneration paid by all  
34 employers during the base period. In addition, benefit payment charges  
35 for the [twenty-eight effective days] SEVEN EFFECTIVE WEEKS of benefits  
36 other than those chargeable to the out-of-state employer as prescribed  
37 above shall be made to the general account.

38 (v) In those instances where the last employer prior to the filing of  
39 a valid original claim has paid total remuneration to the claimant  
40 during the period from the start of the base period used to establish  
41 the benefit claim until the date of the claimant's filing of the valid  
42 original claim in an amount less than or equal to six times the claim-  
43 ant's benefit rate and the last employer has substantiated such amount  
44 to the satisfaction of the commissioner within ten days of the commis-  
45 sioner's original notice of potential charges to such last employer's  
46 account, benefits shall be charged as follows: benefits payable to the  
47 claimant with respect to the claimant's then current benefit year shall  
48 be charged, when paid, to the account of such last employer prior to the  
49 filing of a valid original claim in an amount equal to the lowest whole  
50 number (one, two, three, four, five, or six) times the claimant's bene-  
51 fit rate where the product of such lowest whole number times the claim-  
52 ant's benefit rate is equal to or greater than such total remuneration  
53 paid by such last employer to the claimant. Thereafter, such charges  
54 shall be made to the account of each employer in the base period used to  
55 establish the valid original claim in the same proportion that the  
56 remuneration paid by each employer to the claimant during that base

1 period bears to the remuneration paid by all employers to the claimant  
2 during that base period. Notice of such recalculation of potential  
3 charges shall be given to the last employer and each employer of the  
4 claimant in the base period used to establish the valid original claim.

5 S 6. Subdivisions 1 and 3 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended  
6 by chapter 645 of the laws of 1951, are amended to read as follows:

7 1. Entitlement to benefits. A claimant shall be entitled to accumulate  
8 effective [days] WEEKS for the purpose of benefit rights only if he has  
9 complied with the provisions of this article regarding the filing of his  
10 claim, including the filing of a valid original claim, registered as  
11 totally OR PARTIALLY unemployed, reported his subsequent employment and  
12 unemployment, and reported for work or otherwise given notice of the  
13 continuance of his unemployment.

14 3. Compensable periods. Benefits shall be paid for each [accumulation  
15 of] effective [days within a] week.

16 S 7. Subdivision 4 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by  
17 chapter 457 of the laws of 1987, is amended to read as follows:

18 4. Duration. Benefits shall not be paid for more than [one hundred and  
19 four effective days] TWENTY-SIX EFFECTIVE WEEKS in any benefit year,  
20 except as provided in section six hundred one and subdivision two of  
21 section five hundred ninety-nine of this chapter.

22 S 8. Subdivision 5 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by  
23 chapter 413 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

24 5. Benefit rate. A claimant's weekly benefit amount shall be one twen-  
25 ty-sixth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of  
26 the base period by employers, liable for contributions or payments in  
27 lieu of contributions under this article. However, for claimants whose  
28 high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is three thou-  
29 sand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall  
30 be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar  
31 quarter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or  
32 payments in lieu of contributions under this article. ANY CLAIMANT WHO  
33 IS PARTIALLY UNEMPLOYED WITH RESPECT TO ANY EFFECTIVE WEEK SHALL BE  
34 PAID, WITH RESPECT TO SUCH EFFECTIVE WEEK, A BENEFIT AMOUNT EQUAL TO HIS  
35 OR HER WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT LESS THE TOTAL OF THE REMUNERATION, IF ANY,  
36 PAID OR PAYABLE TO HIM OR HER WITH RESPECT TO SUCH WEEK FOR SERVICES  
37 PERFORMED WHICH IS IN EXCESS OF HIS OR HER PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT PLUS  
38 HIS OR HER EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT. Any claimant whose high calendar  
39 quarter remuneration during the base period is more than three thousand  
40 five hundred seventy-five dollars shall not have a weekly benefit amount  
41 less than one hundred forty-three dollars. The weekly benefit amount, so  
42 computed, that is not a multiple of one dollar shall be lowered to the  
43 next multiple of one dollar. On the first Monday of September, nineteen  
44 hundred ninety-eight the weekly benefit amount shall not exceed three  
45 hundred sixty-five dollars nor be less than forty dollars, until the  
46 first Monday of September, two thousand, at which time the maximum bene-  
47 fit payable pursuant to this subdivision shall equal one-half of the  
48 state average weekly wage for covered employment as calculated by the  
49 department no sooner than July first, two thousand and no later than  
50 August first, two thousand, rounded down to the lowest dollar.

51 S 9. Subdivision 6 of section 590 of the labor law, as added by chap-  
52 ter 720 of the laws of 1953 and as renumbered by chapter 675 of the laws  
53 of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

54 6. Notification requirement. No effective [day] WEEK shall be counted  
55 for any purposes except effective [days] WEEKS as to which notification  
56 has been given in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

1 S 10. Subdivision 7 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by  
2 chapter 415 of the laws of 1983, is amended to read as follows:

3 7. Waiting period. A claimant shall not be entitled to accumulate  
4 effective [days] WEEKS for the purpose of benefit payments until he has  
5 accumulated a waiting period of [four effective days either wholly with-  
6 in the week in which he established his valid original claim or partly  
7 within such week and partly within his benefit year initiated by such  
8 claim] ONE EFFECTIVE WEEK.

9 S 11. Subdivision 1 of section 591 of the labor law, as amended by  
10 chapter 413 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

11 1. Unemployment. Benefits, except as provided in section five hundred  
12 ninety-one-a of this title, shall be paid only to a claimant who is  
13 totally unemployed OR PARTIALLY UNEMPLOYED and who is unable to engage  
14 in his usual employment or in any other for which he is reasonably  
15 fitted by training and experience. A claimant who is receiving benefits  
16 under this article shall not be denied such benefits pursuant to this  
17 subdivision or to subdivision two of this section because of such claim-  
18 ant's service on a grand or petit jury of any state or of the United  
19 States.

20 S 12. Subdivision 1 of section 591 of the labor law, as amended by  
21 chapter 446 of the laws of 1981, is amended to read as follows:

22 1. Unemployment. Benefits shall be paid only to a claimant who is  
23 totally unemployed OR PARTIALLY UNEMPLOYED and who is unable to engage  
24 in his usual employment or in any other for which he is reasonably  
25 fitted by training and experience. A claimant who is receiving benefits  
26 under this article shall not be denied such benefits pursuant to this  
27 subdivision or to subdivision two of this section because of such claim-  
28 ant's service on a grand or petit jury of any state or of the United  
29 States.

30 S 13. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section  
31 591-a of the labor law, as added by chapter 413 of the laws of 2003, is  
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (i) requirements relating to total unemployment AND PARTIAL UNEMPLOY-  
34 MENT, as defined in section five hundred twenty-two of this article,  
35 availability for work, as set forth in subdivision two of section five  
36 hundred ninety-one of this title and refusal to accept work, as set  
37 forth in subdivision two of section five hundred ninety-three of this  
38 title, are not applicable to such individuals;

39 S 14. Subdivision 2 of section 592 of the labor law, as amended by  
40 chapter 415 of the laws of 1983, is amended to read as follows:

41 2. Concurrent payments prohibited. No [days] WEEKS of total unemploy-  
42 ment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT shall be deemed to occur in any week with  
43 respect to which [or a part of which] a claimant has received or is  
44 seeking unemployment benefits under an unemployment compensation law of  
45 any other state or of the United States, provided that this provision  
46 shall not apply if the appropriate agency of such other state or of the  
47 United States finally determines that he is not entitled to such unem-  
48 ployment benefits.

49 S 15. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 593 of the labor law,  
50 as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as  
51 follows:

52 (a) No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT  
53 shall be deemed to occur after a claimant's voluntary separation without  
54 good cause from employment until he or she has subsequently worked in  
55 employment and earned remuneration at least equal to five times his or  
56 her weekly benefit rate. In addition to other circumstances that may be

1 found to constitute good cause, including a compelling family reason as  
2 set forth in paragraph (b) of this subdivision, voluntary separation  
3 from employment shall not in itself disqualify a claimant if circum-  
4 stances have developed in the course of such employment that would have  
5 justified the claimant in refusing such employment in the first instance  
6 under the terms of subdivision two of this section or if the claimant,  
7 pursuant to an option provided under a collective bargaining agreement  
8 or written employer plan which permits waiver of his right to retain the  
9 employment when there is a temporary layoff because of lack of work, has  
10 elected to be separated for a temporary period and the employer has  
11 consented thereto.

12 S 16. Subdivision 2 of section 593 of the labor law, as amended by  
13 chapter 415 of the laws of 1983, the opening paragraph as amended by  
14 chapter 5 of the laws of 2000, paragraph (a) as added by chapter 589 of  
15 the laws of 1998 and paragraphs (d) and (e) as amended by chapter 35 of  
16 the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

17 2. Refusal of employment. No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR  
18 PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT shall be deemed to occur beginning with the [day  
19 on] WEEK IN which a claimant, without good cause, refuses to accept an  
20 offer of employment for which he is reasonably fitted by training and  
21 experience, including employment not subject to this article, until he  
22 has subsequently worked in employment and earned remuneration at least  
23 equal to five times his or her weekly benefit rate. Except that claim-  
24 ants who are not subject to a recall date or who do not obtain employ-  
25 ment through a union hiring hall and who are still unemployed after  
26 receiving thirteen weeks of benefits shall be required to accept any  
27 employment proffered that such claimants are capable of performing,  
28 provided that such employment would result in a wage not less than  
29 eighty percent of such claimant's high calendar quarter wages received  
30 in the base period and not substantially less than the prevailing wage  
31 for similar work in the locality as provided for in paragraph (d) of  
32 this subdivision. No refusal to accept employment shall be deemed with-  
33 out good cause nor shall it disqualify any claimant otherwise eligible  
34 to receive benefits if:

35 (a) a refusal to accept employment which would interfere with a claim-  
36 ant's right to join or retain membership in any labor organization or  
37 otherwise interfere with or violate the terms of a collective bargaining  
38 agreement shall be with good cause; OR

39 (b) there is a strike, lockout, or other industrial controversy in the  
40 establishment in which the employment is offered; or

41 (c) the employment is at an unreasonable distance from his residence,  
42 or travel to and from the place of employment involves expense substan-  
43 tially greater than that required in his former employment unless the  
44 expense be provided for; or

45 (d) the wages or compensation or hours or conditions offered are  
46 substantially less favorable to the claimant than those prevailing for  
47 similar work in the locality, or are such as tend to depress wages or  
48 working conditions; or

49 (e) the claimant is seeking part-time work as provided in subdivision  
50 five of section five hundred ninety-six of this title and the offer of  
51 employment is not comparable to his or her part-time work as defined in  
52 such subdivision.

53 S 17. Subdivisions 3 and 4 of section 593 of the labor law, as amended  
54 by chapter 589 of the laws of 1998, are amended to read as follows:

55 3. Misconduct. No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEM-  
56 PLOYMENT shall be deemed to occur after a claimant lost employment

1 through misconduct in connection with his or her employment until he or  
2 she has subsequently worked in employment and earned remuneration at  
3 least equal to five times his or her weekly benefit rate.

4 4. Criminal acts. No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL  
5 UNEMPLOYMENT shall be deemed to occur during a period of twelve months  
6 after a claimant loses employment as a result of an act constituting a  
7 felony in connection with such employment, provided the claimant is duly  
8 convicted thereof or has signed a statement admitting that he or she has  
9 committed such an act. Determinations regarding a benefit claim may be  
10 reviewed at any time. Any benefits paid to a claimant prior to a deter-  
11 mination that the claimant has lost employment as a result of such act  
12 shall not be considered to have been accepted by the claimant in good  
13 faith. In addition, remuneration paid to the claimant by the affected  
14 employer prior to the claimant's loss of employment due to such criminal  
15 act may not be utilized for the purpose of establishing entitlement to a  
16 subsequent, valid original claim. The provisions of this subdivision  
17 shall apply even if the employment lost as a result of such act is not  
18 the claimant's last employment prior to the filing of his or her claim.

19 S 18. Section 594 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 728 of the  
20 laws of 1952 and the opening paragraph as amended by chapter 139 of the  
21 laws of 1968, is amended to read as follows:

22 S 594. Reduction of benefits for false statement. A claimant who has  
23 wilfully made a false statement or representation to obtain any benefit  
24 under the provisions of this article shall forfeit benefits for at least  
25 the first [four] ONE but not more than the first [eighty] TWENTY effec-  
26 tive [days] WEEKS following discovery of such offense for which he  
27 otherwise would have been entitled to receive benefits. Such penalty  
28 shall apply only once with respect to each such offense.

29 For the purpose of subdivision four of section five hundred ninety of  
30 this article, the claimant shall be deemed to have received benefits for  
31 such forfeited effective [days] WEEKS.

32 The penalty provided in this section shall not be confined to a single  
33 benefit year but shall no longer apply in whole or in part after the  
34 expiration of two years from the date on which the offense was commit-  
35 ted.

36 A claimant shall refund all moneys received because of such false  
37 statement or representation made by him.

38 S 19. Subdivision 1 of section 596 of the labor law, as amended by  
39 chapter 204 of the laws of 1982, is amended to read as follows:

40 1. Claim filing and certification to unemployment. A claimant shall  
41 file a claim for benefits at the local state employment office serving  
42 the area in which he was last employed or in which he resides within  
43 such time and in such manner as the commissioner shall prescribe. He  
44 shall disclose whether he owes child support obligations, as hereafter  
45 defined. If a claimant making such disclosure is eligible for benefits,  
46 the commissioner shall notify the state or local child support enforce-  
47 ment agency, as hereafter defined, that the claimant is eligible.

48 A claimant shall correctly report any [days] WEEKS of employment and  
49 any compensation he received for such employment, including employments  
50 not subject to this article, and the [days on ] WEEKS DURING which he  
51 was totally unemployed OR PARTIALLY UNEMPLOYED and shall make such  
52 reports in accordance with such regulations as the commissioner shall  
53 prescribe.

54 S 20. Subdivision 4 of section 596 of the labor law, as added by chap-  
55 ter 705 of the laws of 1944 and as renumbered by section 148-a of part B  
56 of chapter 436 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

1 4. Registration and reporting for work. A claimant shall register as  
2 totally unemployed OR PARTIALLY UNEMPLOYED at a local state employment  
3 office serving the area in which he was last employed or in which he  
4 resides in accordance with such regulations as the commissioner shall  
5 prescribe. After so registering, such claimant shall report for work at  
6 the same local state employment office or otherwise give notice of the  
7 continuance of his unemployment as often and in such manner as the  
8 commissioner shall prescribe.

9 S 21. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 599 of the labor law,  
10 as amended by chapter 593 of the laws of 1991, is amended to read as  
11 follows:

12 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a claimant  
13 attending an approved training course or program under this section may  
14 receive additional benefits of up to [one hundred four] TWENTY-SIX  
15 effective [days] WEEKS following exhaustion of regular and, if in  
16 effect, any other extended benefits, provided that entitlement to a new  
17 benefit claim cannot be established. Certification of continued satis-  
18 factory participation and progress in such training course or program  
19 must be submitted to the commissioner prior to the payment of any such  
20 benefits. The duration of such additional benefits shall in no case  
21 exceed twice the number of effective [days] WEEKS of regular benefits to  
22 which the claimant is entitled at the time the claimant is accepted in,  
23 or demonstrates application for appropriate training.

24 S 22. Subdivision 1 of section 600 of the labor law, as added by chap-  
25 ter 793 of the laws of 1963, is amended to read as follows:

26 1. Reduction of benefit rate. If a claimant retires or is retired from  
27 employment by an employer and, due to such retirement, is receiving a  
28 pension or retirement payment under a plan financed in whole or in part  
29 by such employer, such claimant's benefit rate for [four] ONE effective  
30 [days] WEEK otherwise applicable under subdivision seven of section five  
31 hundred ninety shall be reduced as hereinafter provided.

32 S 23. Subdivisions 2, 3 and 4 of section 601 of the labor law, as  
33 amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, are amended to read as  
34 follows:

35 2. Eligibility conditions. Extended benefits shall be payable to a  
36 claimant for effective [days] WEEKS occurring [in any week] within an  
37 eligibility period, provided the claimant

38 (a) has exhausted his or her rights to regular benefits under this  
39 article in his or her current benefit year or, his or her benefit year  
40 having expired prior to such week, he or she does not have the required  
41 weeks of employment or earnings to establish a new benefit year, and he  
42 or she has no rights to benefits under the unemployment insurance law of  
43 any other state;

44 (b) has no rights to unemployment benefits or allowances under the  
45 railroad unemployment insurance act, the trade expansion act of nineteen  
46 hundred sixty-two, the automotive products trade act of nineteen hundred  
47 sixty-five, or such other federal laws as are specified in regulations  
48 issued by the secretary of labor of the United States;

49 (c) has not received and is not seeking unemployment benefits under  
50 the unemployment compensation law of the Virgin Islands or of Canada  
51 unless, if he or she is seeking such benefits, the appropriate agency  
52 finally determines that he or she is not entitled to benefits under such  
53 law;

54 (d) has satisfied the conditions of this article, required to render a  
55 claimant eligible for regular benefits, which are applicable to extended

1 benefits, including not being subject to a disqualification or suspen-  
2 sion;

3 (e) is not claiming benefits pursuant to an interstate claim filed  
4 under the interstate benefit payment plan in a state where an extended  
5 benefit period is not in effect, except that this condition shall not  
6 apply with respect to the first [eight] THIRTEEN effective [days] WEEKS  
7 for which extended benefits shall otherwise be payable pursuant to an  
8 interstate claim filed under the interstate benefit payment plan; and

9 (f) in his or her base period has remuneration of one and one-half  
10 times the high calendar quarter earnings in accordance with section five  
11 hundred twenty-seven of this article.

12 3. Extended benefit amounts; rate and duration. Extended benefits  
13 shall be paid to a claimant

14 (a) at a rate equal to his or her rate for regular benefits during his  
15 or her applicable benefit year but

16 (b) for not more than [fifty-two] THIRTEEN effective [days] WEEKS with  
17 respect to his or her applicable benefit year, with a total maximum  
18 amount equal to fifty percentum of the total maximum amount of regular  
19 benefits payable in such benefit year, and

20 (c) if a claimant's benefit year ends within an extended benefit peri-  
21 od, the remaining balance of extended benefits to which he or she would  
22 be entitled, if any, shall be reduced by the number of effective [days]  
23 WEEKS for which he or she was entitled to receive trade readjustment  
24 allowances under the federal trade act of nineteen hundred seventy-four  
25 during such benefit year, and

26 (d) for periods of high unemployment for not more than eighty effec-  
27 tive days with respect to the applicable benefit year with a total maxi-  
28 mum amount equal to eighty percent of the total maximum amount of regu-  
29 lar benefits payable in such benefit year.

30 4. Charging of extended benefits. The provisions of paragraph (e) of  
31 subdivision one of section five hundred eighty-one of this article shall  
32 apply to benefits paid pursuant to the provisions of this section, and  
33 if they were paid for effective [days occurring in] weeks following the  
34 end of a benefit year, they shall be deemed paid with respect to that  
35 benefit year. However, except for governmental entities as defined in  
36 section five hundred sixty-five and Indian tribes as defined in section  
37 five hundred sixty-six of this article, only one-half of the amount of  
38 such benefits shall be debited to the employers' account; the remainder  
39 thereof shall be debited to the general account, and such account shall  
40 be credited with the amount of payments received in the fund pursuant to  
41 the provisions of the federal-state extended unemployment compensation  
42 act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the state has entered an  
43 extended benefit period triggered pursuant to subparagraph one of para-  
44 graph (a) of subdivision one of this section for which federal law  
45 provides for one hundred percent federal sharing of the costs of bene-  
46 fits, all charges shall be debited to the general account and such  
47 account shall be credited with the amount of payments received in the  
48 fund pursuant to the provisions of the federal-state extended unemploy-  
49 ment compensation act or other federal law providing for one hundred  
50 percent federal sharing for the cost of such benefits.

51 S 24. Paragraphs (b) and (e) of subdivision 5 of section 601 of the  
52 labor law, as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to  
53 read as follows:

54 (b) No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT  
55 shall be deemed to occur [in any week] within an eligibility period  
56 during which a claimant fails to accept any offer of suitable work or

1 fails to apply for suitable work to which he or she was referred by the  
2 commissioner, who shall make such referral if such work is available, or  
3 during which he or she fails to engage actively in seeking work by  
4 making a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work and providing  
5 tangible evidence of such effort, and until he or she has worked in  
6 employment during at least four subsequent weeks and earned remuneration  
7 of at least four times his or her benefit rate.

8 (e) No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT  
9 shall be deemed to occur [in any week] within an eligibility period  
10 under section five hundred ninety-three of this article, until he or she  
11 has subsequently worked in employment in accordance with the require-  
12 ments set forth in section five hundred ninety-three of this article.

13 S 25. Section 603 of the labor law, as added by chapter 438 of the  
14 laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

15 S 603. Definitions. For purposes of this title: "Total unemployment"  
16 shall mean the total lack of any employment [on any day] DURING ANY WEEK  
17 AND "PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT" SHALL MEAN ANY EMPLOYMENT DURING ANY WEEK  
18 THAT IS LESS THAN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT SO LONG AS THE COMPENSATION PAID  
19 IS LESS THAN THE CLAIMANT'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE PLUS THE CLAIMANT'S  
20 PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT PLUS THE EMPLOYMENT INCENTIVE CREDIT, other than  
21 with an employer applying for a shared work program. "Full time hours"  
22 shall mean at least thirty-five but not more than forty hours per week,  
23 and shall not include overtime as defined in the Fair Labor Standards  
24 Act. "Work force" shall mean the total work force, a clearly identifi-  
25 able unit or units thereof, or a particular shift or shifts.

26 S 26. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that  
27 the amendments to subdivision 1 of section 591 of the labor law made by  
28 section eleven of this act shall be subject to the expiration and rever-  
29 sion of such subdivision pursuant to section 10 of chapter 413 of the  
30 laws of 2003, as amended, when upon such date the provisions of section  
31 twelve of this act shall take effect; provided, further, that the amend-  
32 ments to section 591-a of the labor law made by section thirteen of this  
33 act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be deemed  
34 repealed therewith.