

6139

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 8, 2011

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

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to the calculation of weekly
unemployment insurance benefits for workers who are partially unem-
ployed; 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. Section 522 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 720 of
2 the laws of 1953, is amended to read as follows:
3 S 522. Total unemployment AND PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT. "Total unemploy-
4 ment" means the total lack of any employment [on any day] DURING ANY
5 WEEK. "PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT" MEANS ANY EMPLOYMENT DURING ANY WEEK THAT
6 IS LESS THAN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT SO LONG AS THE COMPENSATION PAID IS
7 LESS THAN THE CLAIMANT'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE PLUS THE CLAIMANT'S PARTIAL
8 BENEFIT CREDIT. The term "employment" as used in this section means any
9 employment including that not defined in this title.
10 S 2. Section 523 of the labor law is REPEALED and a new section 523 is
11 added to read as follows:
12 S 523. EFFECTIVE WEEK. "EFFECTIVE WEEK" MEANS (A) A WEEK DURING WHICH
13 A CLAIMANT PERFORMS NO SERVICES FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANT IS PAID COMPEN-
14 SATION, OR (B) A WEEK DURING WHICH A CLAIMANT PERFORMS SERVICES ON A
15 PART-TIME BASIS FOR WHICH THE CLAIMANT IS PAID COMPENSATION THAT IS LESS
16 THAN THE CLAIMANT'S WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE PLUS HIS OR HER PARTIAL BENEFIT
17 CREDIT.
18 S 3. The labor law is amended by adding a new section 514-a to read as
19 follows:
20 S 514-A. PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT. "PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT" MEANS THAT
21 PART OF THE COMPENSATION, IF ANY, PAID TO A CLAIMANT WITH RESPECT TO A
22 WEEK FOR WHICH BENEFITS ARE CLAIMED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CHAPTER
23 WHICH IS NOT IN EXCESS OF FORTY PER CENTUM OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S WEEKLY

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

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1 BENEFIT RATE, OR SEVENTY-ONE DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS, WHICHEVER IS THE
2 GREATER. SUCH PARTIAL BENEFIT CREDIT, IF NOT A MULTIPLE OF ONE DOLLAR,
3 SHALL BE COMPUTED TO THE NEXT HIGHER MULTIPLE OF ONE DOLLAR.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 of this article. However, in those instances where a claimant was not
2 afforded an opportunity to perform services for the educational institu-
3 tion for the next academic year or term after reasonable assurance was
4 provided, such employer shall be liable for benefit charges as provided
5 for in this paragraph for any retroactive payments made to the claimant.

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

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

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

1 charges shall be given to the last employer and each employer of the
2 claimant in the base period used to establish the valid original claim.

3 S 6. Subdivision 1 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by
4 chapter 645 of the laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

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

12 S 7. Subdivision 3 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by
13 chapter 645 of the laws of 1951, is amended to read as follows:

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

16 S 8. 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 9. 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. Any
38 claimant whose high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period
39 is more than three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars shall not
40 have a weekly benefit amount less than one hundred forty-three dollars.
41 The weekly benefit amount, so computed, that is not a multiple of one
42 dollar shall be lowered to the next multiple of one dollar. On the first
43 Monday of September, nineteen hundred ninety-eight the weekly benefit
44 amount shall not exceed three hundred sixty-five dollars nor be less
45 than forty dollars, until the first Monday of September, two thousand,
46 at which time the maximum benefit payable pursuant to this subdivision
47 shall equal one-half of the state average weekly wage for covered
48 employment as calculated by the department no sooner than July first,
49 two thousand and no later than August first, two thousand, rounded down
50 to the lowest dollar.

51 S 10. 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 11. 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 OR
5 SHE has accumulated a waiting period of [four effective days either
6 wholly within the week in which he established his valid original claim
7 or partly within such week and partly within his benefit year initiated
8 by such claim] ONE EFFECTIVE WEEK.

9 S 12. 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 OR HER usual employment or in any other for which he OR SHE is
15 reasonably fitted by training and experience. A claimant who is receiv-
16 ing benefits under this article shall not be denied such benefits pursu-
17 ant to this subdivision or to subdivision two of this section because of
18 such claimant's service on a grand or petit jury of any state or of the
19 United States.

20 S 13. 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 OR HER usual employment or in any other for which he OR SHE is
25 reasonably fitted by training and experience. A claimant who is receiv-
26 ing benefits under this article shall not be denied such benefits pursu-
27 ant to this subdivision or to subdivision two of this section because of
28 such claimant's service on a grand or petit jury of any state or of the
29 United States.

30 S 14. 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 15. 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 OR SHE is not entitled to such
48 unemployment benefits.

49 S 16. 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 OR HER right to
9 retain the employment when there is a temporary layoff because of lack
10 of work, has elected to be separated for a temporary period and the
11 employer has consented thereto.

12 S 17. 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 OR SHE is reasonably fitted by training
21 and experience, including employment not subject to this article, until
22 he OR SHE has subsequently worked in employment and earned remuneration
23 at least equal to five times his or her weekly benefit rate. Except that
24 claimants who are not subject to a recall date or who do not obtain
25 employment through a union hiring hall and who are still unemployed
26 after receiving thirteen weeks of benefits shall be required to accept
27 any 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;

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 OR HER
42 residence, or travel to and from the place of employment involves
43 expense substantially greater than that required in his OR HER former
44 employment unless the 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 18. Subdivision 3 of section 593 of the labor law, as amended by
54 chapter 589 of the laws of 1998, is 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 S 19. Subdivision 4 of section 593 of the labor law, as amended by
5 chapter 589 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

38 A claimant shall refund all moneys received because of such false
39 statement or representation made by him OR HER.

40 S 21. Subdivision 1 of section 596 of the labor law, as amended by
41 chapter 204 of the laws of 1982, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

1 S 22. Subdivision 4 of section 596 of the labor law, as added by chap-
2 ter 705 of the laws of 1944 and as renumbered by section 148-a of part B
3 of chapter 436 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

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

12 S 23. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 599 of the labor law,
13 as amended by chapter 593 of the laws of 1991, is amended to read as
14 follows:

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

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

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

35 S 25. Subdivision 2 of section 601 of the labor law, as amended by
36 chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

(d) has satisfied the conditions of this article, required to render a claimant eligible for regular benefits, which are applicable to extended benefits, including not being subject to a disqualification or suspension;

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

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

S 26. Subdivision 3 of section 601 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

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

(d) for periods of high unemployment for not more than eighty effective days with respect to the applicable benefit year with a total maximum amount equal to eighty percent of the total maximum amount of regular benefits payable in such benefit year.

S 27. Subdivision 4 of section 601 of the labor law, as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

4. Charging of extended benefits. The provisions of paragraph (e) of subdivision one of section five hundred eighty-one of this article shall apply to benefits paid pursuant to the provisions of this section, and if they were paid for effective [days occurring in] weeks following the end of a benefit year, they shall be deemed paid with respect to that benefit year. However, except for governmental entities as defined in section five hundred sixty-five and Indian tribes as defined in section five hundred sixty-six of this article, only one-half of the amount of such benefits shall be debited to the employers' account; the remainder thereof shall be debited to the general account, and such account shall be credited with the amount of payments received in the fund pursuant to the provisions of the federal-state extended unemployment compensation act. Notwithstanding the foregoing, where the state has entered an extended benefit period triggered pursuant to subparagraph one of paragraph (a) of subdivision one of this section for which federal law provides for one hundred percent federal sharing of the costs of benefits, all charges shall be debited to the general account and such account shall be credited with the amount of payments received in the fund pursuant to the provisions of the federal-state extended unemployment compensation act or other federal law providing for one hundred percent federal sharing for the cost of such benefits.

1 S 28. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 5 of section 601 of the labor law,
2 as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 (b) No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT
5 shall be deemed to occur [in any week] within an eligibility period
6 during which a claimant fails to accept any offer of suitable work or
7 fails to apply for suitable work to which he or she was referred by the
8 commissioner, who shall make such referral if such work is available, or
9 during which he or she fails to engage actively in seeking work by
10 making a systematic and sustained effort to obtain work and providing
11 tangible evidence of such effort, and until he or she has worked in
12 employment during at least four subsequent weeks and earned remuneration
13 of at least four times his or her benefit rate.

14 S 29. Paragraph (e) of subdivision 5 of section 601 of the labor law,
15 as amended by chapter 35 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as
16 follows:

17 (e) No [days] WEEKS of total unemployment OR PARTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT
18 shall be deemed to occur [in any week] within an eligibility period
19 under section five hundred ninety-three of this [article] TITLE, until
20 he or she has subsequently worked in employment in accordance with the
21 requirements set forth in section five hundred ninety-three of this
22 [article] TITLE.

23 S 30. Section 603 of the labor law, as added by chapter 438 of the
24 laws of 1985, is amended to read as follows:

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

36 S 31. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that
37 the amendments to subdivision 1 of section 591 of the labor law made by
38 section twelve of this act shall be subject to the expiration and rever-
39 sion of such subdivision pursuant to section 10 of chapter 413 of the
40 laws of 2003, as amended, when upon such date the provisions of section
41 thirteen of this act shall take effect; provided, further, however, that
42 the amendment to section 591-a of the labor law made by section fourteen
43 of this act shall not affect the repeal of such section and shall be
44 deemed repealed therewith.