AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to suspending the forfeiture of unemployment benefits during the COVID-19 state of emergency

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 594 of the labor law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, throughout the duration of the state disaster emergency declared by executive order number two hundred two and any further amendments or modifications thereto, the penalties and requirements of subdivisions one, two, and three of this section shall not be applicable to claimants otherwise entitled to receive benefits under this article.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after May 11, 2020, provided, however, that this act shall be subject to the expiration of the state disaster emergency declared for the entire state by executive order number 202 and any further amendments or modifications, and as may be further extended pursuant to section 28 of the executive law, and shall be deemed to expire and be repealed therewith; provided, further, that the commissioner of labor shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission upon the occurrence of the expiration of the state disaster emergency declared by executive order number 202 and any further amendments or modifications, and as may be further extended pursuant to section 28 of the executive law, in order that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base of the official text of the laws of the state of New York in furtherance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-b of the public officers law.

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