AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to allowing a claimant who voluntarily separates from employment during the COVID-19 emergency to receive unemployment benefits

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

1. Section 1. Section 593 of the labor law is amended by adding a new subdivision 1-a to read as follows:

   1-a. Voluntary separation during the COVID-19 declared emergency. A claimant shall not be disqualified from receiving benefits for voluntary separation from employment during the period of declared emergency under Executive Order 202 of 2020, where such claimant has left employment due to the fear of exposure to COVID-19 while employed at such employment.

2. § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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