STATE OF NEW YORK

7086

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 27, 2021

Introduced by Sen. RATH -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to repeal part EEE of a chapter 59 of the laws of 2021, relating to establishing the excluded workers fund to provide payments to workers who suffered a loss of work-related earnings or a major source of household income during a state of emergency declared by the governor and who are otherwise ineligible for unemployment insurance or other state or federal unemployment benefit; to amend chapter 53 of the laws of 2021, enacting the aid to localities budget, in relation to repealing the excluded workers fund and adding the return to work bonus and employer relief fund; and to amend the labor law, in relation to creating the return to work bonus and employer relief fund, and providing for the repeal of such provision upon the expiration thereof

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

Section 1. Part EEE of a chapter 59 of the laws of 2021, relating to establishing the excluded workers fund to provide payments to workers who suffered a loss of work-related earnings or a major source of household income during a state of emergency declared by the governor and who are otherwise ineligible for unemployment insurance or other state or federal unemployment benefit, is REPEALED.

§ 2. Section 1 of chapter 53 of the laws of 2021, enacting the aid to localities budget, is amended by repealing the items hereinbelow set forth in brackets and by adding to such section the other items underscored in this section.

[~~THE EXCLUDED WORKERS FUND ..... 2,100,000,000~~

~~General Fund~~
~~Local Assistance Account - 10000~~

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

LBD11639-01-1

~~For services and expenses of administering the excluded workers fund. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, this appropriation may be used for grants in aid or expenses of contracts with not-for-profit agencies to be determined pursuant to a plan to be developed by the department of labor in consultation with the director of the budget. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no more than ten percent of the funds appropriated herein may be transferred or suballocated to any aid to localities, state operations, or capital appropriation of any state department, agency, or authority to accomplish the intent or purposes stated herein ..... 2,100,000,000~~

~~Program account subtotal ..... 2,100,000,000~~]

THE RETURN TO WORK BONUS AND EMPLOYER RELIEF FUND 2,100,000,000

General Fund
Local Assistance Account - 10000

For services and expenses of administering the return to work bonus and employer relief fund as established in section 591-b of the labor law. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, this appropriation may be used to provide bonus to eligible individuals with bonus for returning to work and to provide relief from contributions to the interests assessment surcharge fund pursuant to section 591-b of the labor law 2,100,000,000

Program account subtotal 2,100,000,000

§ 3. The labor law is amended by adding a new section 591-b to read as follows:

§ 591-b. Return to work bonus and employer relief fund. 1. There is hereby created a return to work bonus and employer relief fund to be administered by the department of labor.

2. Eligibility. Individuals meeting the following criteria shall be eligible to receive a one-time twelve hundred dollar bonus from the return to work bonus and employer relief fund:

(a) such individual had an active unemployment claim on the day of or any day proceeding the effective date of this section;

(b) such individual has become employed by a non-governmental employer located in New York state after the effective date of this section;

(c) upon the effective date of this section, such individual is no longer eligible to receive unemployment benefits under section five

hundred ninety-one or five hundred ninety-one-a of this title for reason of compensation from employment; and

(d) such individual has completed at least four consecutive weeks of employment after the effective date of this section.

3. Duties of the commissioner. (a) The commissioner shall utilize monies from the return to work bonus and employer relief fund to provide all eligible individuals pursuant to subdivision two of this section with a twelve hundred dollar payment upon the completion of such an individual's fourth consecutive week of employment under paragraph (d) of subdivision two of this section.

(b) The commissioner shall utilize any funds not distributed to eligible individuals under this section to reduce the burden on all businesses required to contribute to the interest assessment surcharge fund pursuant to section five hundred eighty-one-d of this article.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that section two of this act shall expire and be deemed repealed September 28, 2021.