STATE OF NEW YORK

6168--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 26, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. LUNSFORD -- read once and referred to the Committee on Labor -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to increasing the unemployment insurance minimum weekly benefit amount

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 590 of the labor law, as amended by section 8 of part O of chapter 57 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A claimant's weekly benefit amount shall be one twenty-sixth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers, liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article, provided the claimant has remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during [~~his or her~~] *such claimant's* base period or alternate base period*, but shall not be less than eight hundred sixty dollars*. However, for any claimant who has remuneration paid in all four calendar quarters during [~~his or her~~] *such claimant's* base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article*, but shall not be less than eight hundred sixty dollars*. A claimant's weekly benefit shall be one twenty-sixth of the average remuneration paid in the two highest quarters paid during the base period or alternate base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article when the claimant has remuneration paid in two or three calendar quarters provided however, that a claimant whose high calendar quarter is four thousand dollars or less but greater than three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars shall have a weekly benefit amount of one twenty-sixth of such high calendar quarter*, but shall not be less than eight hundred sixty dollars*. However, for any claimant who has remunera-

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

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tion paid in two or three calendar quarters during [~~his or her~~] **such claimant's** base period or alternate base period and whose high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars or less, the benefit amount shall be one twenty-fifth of the remuneration paid during the highest calendar quarter of the base period by employers liable for contributions or payments in lieu of contributions under this article**, but shall not be less than eight hundred sixty dollars**. Any claimant whose high calendar quarter remuneration during the base period is more than three thousand five hundred seventy-five dollars shall not have a weekly benefit amount less than [~~one~~] **eight** hundred [~~forty-three~~] **sixty** dollars. The weekly benefit amount, so computed, that is not a multiple of one dollar shall be lowered to the next multiple of one dollar. On the first Monday of September, nineteen hundred ninety-eight the weekly benefit amount shall not exceed three hundred sixty-five dollars nor be less than forty dollars, until the first Monday of September, two thousand, at which time the maximum benefit payable pursuant to this subdivision shall equal one-half of the state average weekly wage for covered employment as calculated by the department no sooner than July first, two thousand and no later than August first, two thousand, rounded down to the lowest dollar. On and after the first Monday of October, two thousand fourteen, the weekly benefit shall not be less than one hundred dollars, nor shall it exceed four hundred twenty dollars until the first Monday of October, two thousand fifteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be four hundred twenty-five dollars, until the first Monday of October, two thousand sixteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be four hundred thirty dollars, until the first Monday of October, two thousand seventeen when the maximum benefit amount shall be four hundred thirty-five dollars, until the first Monday of October, two thousand eighteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be four hundred fifty dollars, until the first Monday of October, two thousand nineteen when the maximum benefit amount shall be thirty-six percent of the average weekly wage until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty when the maximum benefit amount shall be thirty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October**,** two thousand twenty-one when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-two when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-two percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-three [~~when the maximum benefit amount~~]**. On and after the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-five, the weekly benefit shall not be less than eight hundred sixty dollars, nor** shall [~~be~~] **it exceed** forty-four percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-four when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-six percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-five when the maximum benefit amount shall be forty-eight percent of the average weekly wage, until the first Monday of October, two thousand twenty-six and each year thereafter on the first Monday of October when the maximum benefit amount shall be fifty percent of the average weekly wage provided, however, that in no event shall the maximum benefit amount be reduced from the previous year.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.