



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5369

LCO No. 1602



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:
(LAB)

**AN ACT CONCERNING AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE METHOD FOR
DETERMINING THE MAXIMUM WEEKLY UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT
RATE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-231a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

3 (a) For a construction worker identified pursuant to regulations
4 adopted in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, the total
5 unemployment benefit rate for the individual's benefit year
6 commencing on or after April 1, 1996, shall be an amount equal to one
7 twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of his total wages paid
8 during that quarter of his current benefit year's base period in which
9 wages were the highest but not less than fifteen dollars nor more than
10 the maximum benefit rate as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

11 (b) For an individual not included in subsection (a) of this section,
12 the individual's total unemployment benefit rate for his benefit year
13 commencing after September 30, 1967, shall be an amount equal to one

14 twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of the average of his
15 total wages, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section
16 31-222, paid during the two quarters of his current benefit year's base
17 period in which such wages were highest but not less than fifteen
18 dollars nor more than one hundred fifty-six dollars in any benefit year
19 commencing on or after the first Sunday in July, 1982, nor more than
20 sixty per cent rounded to the next lower dollar of the average wage of
21 [production and related] workers in the state in any benefit year
22 commencing on or after the first Sunday in October, 1983, and
23 provided the maximum benefit rate in any benefit year commencing
24 on or after the first Sunday in October, 1988, shall not increase more
25 than eighteen dollars in any benefit year, such increase to be effective
26 as of the first Sunday in October of such year. The average wage of
27 [production and related] workers in the state shall be determined by
28 the administrator, on or before August fifteenth annually, as of the
29 year ended the previous [June thirtieth] March thirty-first to be
30 effective during the benefit year commencing on or after the first
31 Sunday of the following October and shall be so determined in
32 accordance with the standards for the determination of the average
33 [production wages established by the United States Department of
34 Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics] wage of workers in the state
35 calculated pursuant to the Connecticut Quarterly Census of
36 Employment and Wages or such other method that accurately reflects
37 the average wage of workers in the state as prescribed by the
38 administrator.

39 (c) The administrator shall adopt regulations pursuant to the
40 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.
41 Such regulations shall specify the National Council on Compensation
42 Insurance employee classification codes which identify construction
43 workers covered by subsection (a) of this section and specify the
44 manner and format in which employers shall report the identification
45 of such workers to the administrator.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	31-231a

Statement of Purpose:

To calculate the maximum weekly unemployment benefit rate by using a method of computation that more accurately reflects the average wages paid to workers in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]