



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Committee Bill No. 6461

LCO No. 3808



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:
(LAB)

AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

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 Section 31-231a of the general statutes is repealed and the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 October 1, 2017*):

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 or her total
8 wages paid during that quarter of his or her current benefit year's base
9 period in which wages were the highest but not less than fifteen
10 dollars, and commencing on or after October 1, 2017, shall be an
11 amount equal to one twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of
12 the average of his or her total wages, as defined in section 31-222, paid
13 during the three quarters of his or her current benefit year's base
14 period but not less than fifty dollars nor more than the maximum
15 benefit rate as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

16 (b) For an individual not included in subsection (a) of this section,

17 the individual's total unemployment benefit rate for his or her benefit
18 year commencing after September 30, 1967, shall be an amount equal
19 to one twenty-sixth, rounded to the next lower dollar, of the average of
20 his or her total wages, as defined in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of
21 section 31-222, paid during the two quarters of his or her current
22 benefit year's base period in which such wages were highest but not
23 less than fifteen dollars, and commencing on or after October 1, 2017,
24 shall be an amount equal to one twenty-sixth, rounded to the next
25 lower dollar, of the average of his or her current total wages, as
26 defined in section 31-222, paid during the three quarters of his or her
27 current benefit year's base period but not less than fifty dollars nor
28 more than one hundred fifty-six dollars in any benefit year
29 commencing on or after the first Sunday in July, 1982, nor more than
30 sixty per cent rounded to the next lower dollar of the average wage of
31 production and related workers in the state in any benefit year
32 commencing on or after the first Sunday in October, 1983, and
33 provided the maximum benefit rate in any benefit year commencing
34 on or after the first Sunday in October, 1988, shall not increase more
35 than eighteen dollars in any benefit year, such increase to be effective
36 as of the first Sunday in October of such year, and further provided the
37 maximum benefit rate shall not increase in any benefit year
38 commencing on or after the first Sunday in October, 2017, if the
39 Unemployment Trust Fund is less than seventy per cent solvent. The
40 average wage of production and related workers in the state shall be
41 determined by the administrator, on or before August fifteenth
42 annually, as of the year ended the previous June thirtieth to be
43 effective during the benefit year commencing on or after the first
44 Sunday of the following October and shall be so determined in
45 accordance with the standards for the determination of average
46 production wages established by the United States Department of
47 Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

48 (c) The administrator shall adopt regulations pursuant to the
49 provisions of chapter 54 to implement the provisions of this section.
50 Such regulations shall specify the National Council on Compensation

51 Insurance employee classification codes which identify construction
52 workers covered by subsection (a) of this section and specify the
53 manner and format in which employers shall report the identification
54 of such workers to the administrator.

55 Sec. 2. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 31-236 of the
56 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
57 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

58 (4) During any week with respect to which the individual has
59 received or is about to receive remuneration in the form of (A) wages
60 in lieu of notice or dismissal payments, including severance or
61 separation payment by an employer to an employee beyond the
62 employee's wages upon termination of the employment relationship,
63 [unless the employee was required to waive or forfeit a right or claim
64 independently established by statute or common law, against the
65 employer as a condition of receiving the payment,] or any payment by
66 way of compensation for loss of wages, or any other state or federal
67 unemployment benefits, except mustering out pay, terminal leave pay
68 or any allowance or compensation granted by the United States under
69 an Act of Congress to an ex-serviceperson in recognition of the ex-
70 serviceperson's former military service, or any service-connected pay
71 or compensation earned by an ex-serviceperson paid before or after
72 separation or discharge from active military service, or (B)
73 compensation for temporary disability under any workers'
74 compensation law;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-231a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2017</i>	31-236(a)(4)

Statement of Purpose:

To update and reform unemployment compensation and ensure that the Unemployment Trust Fund remains solvent in future years.

[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.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. RUTIGLIANO, 123rd Dist.; REP. ROJAS, 9th Dist.
REP. DAVIS C., 57th Dist.; REP. ARCONTI, 109th Dist.

H.B. 6461