
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5164

AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

SUMMARY

For labor disputes that start on or after December 14, 2025, this bill generally makes striking workers eligible for unemployment benefits after they have been on strike for 14 consecutive days. Current law generally disqualifies claimants for benefits during any week in which their unemployment is due to a labor dispute. The bill lifts this disqualification once the labor dispute has been continuous for 14 days since it began.

Existing law also allows claimants to qualify for benefits during a labor dispute, with no waiting period, if the (1) unemployment is due to a lockout (e.g., the employer closed the employment premises) or (2) claimant is not participating in the dispute and does not belong to a trade, class, or organization of workers that is participating in, financing, or directly interested in the dispute (e.g., non-union employees at a business temporarily closed by a strike).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 8 Nay 4 (03/07/2024)