

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 610

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMP: Provides relative to the maximum weekly benefit amount

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 23:1474(C), (G)(3)(b) and (I) and 1592(B) and (F) and to repeal  
3 R.S. 23:1592(E), relative to unemployment compensation; to provide for the  
4 maximum weekly benefit amount; to change the determination for the maximum  
5 weekly benefit amount; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 23:1474(C), (G)(3)(b) and (I) and 1592(B) and (F) are hereby  
8 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1474. Administrator; Revenue Estimating Conference; "wages"; weekly benefit  
10 amounts

11 \* \* \*

12 C. Pursuant to the official projection of the unemployment trust fund balance  
13 adopted by the Revenue Estimating Conference, the administrator shall apply the  
14 maximum dollar amount of "wages", ~~the maximum weekly benefit amount~~, with any  
15 applicable discounts under R.S. 23:1592, and the formula for computation of benefits  
16 as designated in the following procedures in accordance with the table in Subsection  
17 I of this Section in its entirety.

18 \* \* \*

19 G.

20 \* \* \*

1 (3)

2 \* \* \*

3 (b) He shall thereupon apply, in compliance with this Section, the proper  
4 procedure from the table in Subsection I of this Section to such next calendar year  
5 beginning January first for maximum dollar amount of "wages", ~~maximum weekly~~  
6 ~~benefit amount~~, with any applicable discounts under R.S. 23:1592, and the formula  
7 for computation of benefits.

8 \* \* \*

9 I. The following table shall be applied by the administrator subsequent to his  
10 determination of comparative balance and applied trust fund balance range, in  
11 compliance with this Section:

Procedure	Applied Trust Fund Balance Range	Maximum Dollar Amount of "wages" under R.S. 23:1474	Formula for Computation of Benefits	<del>Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount</del>
13 1	Less than seven hundred fifty million dollars	Eight thousand five hundred dollars	Apply R.S. 23:1592 without seven percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(D) then multiply by 1.05 and then multiply such amount by 1.03	<del>Two hundred twenty-one dollars</del>
14 2	Equal to or greater than seven hundred fifty million dollars but less than one billion one hundred fifty million dollars	Seven thousand seven hundred dollars	Apply R.S. 23:1592 without seven percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(C) and without five percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(D), then multiply such amount by 1.05 and then multiply such amount by 1.15	<del>Two hundred forty-seven dollars</del>

1	3	Equal to or greater than one billion one hundred fifty million dollars but less than one billion four hundred million dollars	Seven thousand dollars	Apply R.S. 23:1592 without seven percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(C) and without five percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(D), then multiply such amount by 1.05 and then multiply such amount by 1.20	<del>Two hundred fifty-eight dollars</del>
2	4	Greater than one billion four hundred million dollars	Seven thousand dollars	Apply R.S. 23:1592 without seven percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(C) and without five percent discount under R.S. 23:1592(D), then multiply such amount by 1.05 and then multiply such amount by 1.32	<del>Two hundred eighty-four dollars</del>

3 \* \* \*

4 §1592. Weekly benefit amount

5 \* \* \*

6 B.(1) The weekly benefit amount paid under this Section shall be ~~in~~  
 7 ~~accordance with R.S. 23:1474, but in no event shall be more than sixty-six and two-~~  
 8 ~~thirds percent of this state's average weekly wage as computed by the administrator~~  
 9 ~~as of the immediately preceding March thirty-first; for purposes of this Section the~~  
 10 ~~average weekly wage computed for any March thirty-first shall not apply to benefit~~  
 11 ~~years which begin prior to the September first immediately following such March~~  
 12 ~~thirty-first.~~ based on the following:

13 (a) Beginning January 1, 2022, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall  
 14 be not less than two hundred seventy-five dollars.

15 (b) Beginning January 1, 2023, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall  
 16 be not less than three hundred dollars.



Proposed law provides that the administrator shall apply the proper procedure found in present law to the next calendar year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> for maximum dollar amount of "wages", with any applicable discounts under present law, and the formula for computation of benefits.

Present law provides a table, containing different categories such as, the different procedures, applied trust fund balance range, maximum dollar amount of "wages", the formula for computation of benefits, and the maximum weekly benefit amount, that the administrator shall apply when making the determination for the comparative balance and applied trust fund balance range.

Proposed law deletes the maximum weekly benefit amount category.

Present law provides that the weekly benefit amount paid under present law shall be in accordance with present law, but in no event shall it be more than 66 2/3% of this state's average weekly wage as computed by the administrator as of the immediately preceding March 31<sup>st</sup>. Present law further provides that the average weekly wage computed for any March 31<sup>st</sup> shall not apply to benefit years which begin prior to Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.

Proposed law provides that the weekly benefit amount shall be based on the following:

- (1) Beginning January 1, 2022, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be not less than \$247.
- (2) Beginning January 1, 2023, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be not less than \$300.
- (3) Beginning January 1, 2024, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be not less than \$325.
- (4) Beginning January 1, 2025, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be based on the average weekly earnings in the second previous year.

Proposed law provides that in no event shall the weekly benefit amount be less than 40% and no more than 66 2/3% of this state's average weekly wage as computed by the administrator.

Present law provides that the weekly benefit amount to unemployed individuals filing a new claim for benefits may be modified in accordance with the provisions in present law. Present law further provides that in no event shall the weekly amount be more than as designated in present law nor less than \$10.

Proposed law provides that the weekly benefit amount to unemployed individuals filing a new claim for benefits shall only be modified in accordance with the provisions in proposed law. Proposed law further provides that in no event shall the weekly amount be more than as designated in proposed law nor less than \$10.

Present law provides that in no event shall the weekly amount paid exceed \$284.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Amends R.S. 23:1474(C), (G)(3)(b) and (I) and 1592(B) and (F); Repeals R.S. 23:1592(E))