

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1687 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY GROVE, BERNSTINE, GLEIM, PICKETT, M. JONES,
KAUFFMAN, STAATS, STAMBAUGH, SCHEUREN, REICHARD, ZIMMERMAN,
GREINER, RYNCAVAGE, ANDERSON, GAYDOS, HAMM, FRITZ AND
BASHLINE, JULY 1, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 1, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd Sp.Sess., 1937
2 P.L.2897, No.1), entitled "An act establishing a system of
3 unemployment compensation to be administered by the
4 Department of Labor and Industry and its existing and newly
5 created agencies with personnel (with certain exceptions)
6 selected on a civil service basis; requiring employers to
7 keep records and make reports, and certain employers to pay
8 contributions based on payrolls to provide moneys for the
9 payment of compensation to certain unemployed persons;
10 providing procedure and administrative details for the
11 determination, payment and collection of such contributions
12 and the payment of such compensation; providing for
13 cooperation with the Federal Government and its agencies;
14 creating certain special funds in the custody of the State
15 Treasurer; and prescribing penalties," in compensation,
16 further providing for rate and amount of compensation.

17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
18 hereby enacts as follows:

19 Section 1. Section 404 of the act of December 5, 1936 (2nd
20 Sp.Sess., 1937 P.L.2897, No.1), known as the Unemployment
21 Compensation Law, is amended by adding a subsection to read:

22 Section 404. Rate and Amount of Compensation.--Compensation
23 shall be paid to each eligible employe in accordance with the
24 following provisions of this section except that compensation

payable with respect to weeks ending in benefit years which begin prior to the first day of January 1989 shall be paid on the basis of the provisions of this section in effect at the beginning of such benefit years.

* * *

(c.1) Notwithstanding the maximum number of weeks provided in subsection (c) of this section, for claims with an application for benefits date on or after the effective date of this subsection, the maximum number of weeks that an individual may receive shall be determined under this subsection, as follows:

(1) The maximum number of weeks that an individual may receive unemployment benefits shall be based on the seasonal adjusted Statewide unemployment rate that applies to the six-month application period in which the claim is filed, with one six-month application period beginning on January 1 and one six-month application period beginning on July 1. The following apply to the application period and seasonal adjusted unemployment rates:

(i) For the application period that begins January 1, the average of the seasonal adjusted unemployment rates for this Commonwealth for the preceding months of July, August and September applies.

(ii) For the application period that begins July 1, the average of the seasonal adjusted unemployment rates for this Commonwealth for the preceding months of January, February and March applies.

(iii) The department shall use the most recent seasonal adjusted unemployment rates determined by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and not the

1 rate as revised in the annual benchmark.

2 (iv) The maximum number of weeks under this paragraph shall
3 be determined using the following table:

4 Seasonal Adjusted Unemployment

| <u>Rate</u> | <u>Number of Weeks</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| <u>Less than or equal to 5.5%</u> | <u>12</u> |
| <u>Greater than 5.5% and 6% or less</u> | <u>13</u> |
| <u>Greater than 6% and 6.5% or less</u> | <u>14</u> |
| <u>Greater than 6.5% and 7% or less</u> | <u>15</u> |
| <u>Greater than 7% and 7.5% or less</u> | <u>16</u> |
| <u>Greater than 7.5% and 8% or less</u> | <u>17</u> |
| <u>Greater than 8% and 8.5% or less</u> | <u>18</u> |
| <u>Greater than 8.5% and 9% or less</u> | <u>19</u> |
| <u>Greater than 9%</u> | <u>20</u> |

15 (2) The total maximum benefits paid to an individual in a
16 single benefit year may not exceed the individual's weekly
17 benefit amount on Part B of the Table Specified for the
18 Determination of Rate and Amount of Benefits multiplied by the
19 number of weeks allowed under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

20 * * *

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in six months.