

2019 -- H 5316

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR - UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DURING FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Introduced By: Representatives Amore, Serodio, Cassar, Blazejewski, and Kazarian

Date Introduced: February 07, 2019

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 28-44 of the General Laws entitled "Employment Security -
2 Benefits" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **28-44-17.2. Unemployment benefits for federal employees during government**
4 **shutdown.**

5 Notwithstanding any general laws to the contrary, federal government employees, who
6 are covered by Rhode Island's employment security laws, shall be immediately eligible for
7 weekly unemployment benefits, while the federal government has been shutdown even if they are
8 actually working but not currently receiving wages. When they eventually receive their federal
9 back pay, they shall immediately repay any unemployment benefits they had received as a result
10 of the federal government shutdown.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would enable federal employees, who are working during a government
2 shutdown but not receiving wages, to receive unemployment benefits while they are working but
3 not getting paid. When they receive their federal back pay they are required to repay the state for
4 any unemployment benefits they receive.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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