



# State of Tennessee

## PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 560

### HOUSE BILL NO. 1039

By Representatives Vaughan, Eldridge, Grills, Hall, Jerry Sexton, Zachary, Hurt, Ogles, Bricken, Smith, Reedy, Helton, White, Todd, Littleton, Alexander, Marsh, Weaver, Gillespie, Mannis

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1402

By Senators Lundberg, Yager, Stevens

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 50 and Title 56, relative to employment security.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-7-301(b), is amended by deleting the benefit table and substituting:

### BENEFIT TABLE

(Effective for benefit years established on and after July 5, 1992)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 780.01 through \$ 806.00                               | \$55.00               |
| 806.01 through 832.00                                     | 56.00                 |
| 832.01 through 858.00                                     | 57.00                 |
| 858.01 through 884.00                                     | 58.00                 |
| 884.01 through 910.00                                     | 59.00                 |
| 910.01 through 936.00                                     | 60.00                 |
| 936.01 through 962.00                                     | 61.00                 |
| 962.01 through 988.00                                     | 62.00                 |
| 988.01 through 1,014.00                                   | 63.00                 |
| 1,014.01 through 1,040.00                                 | 64.00                 |
| 1,040.01 through 1,066.00                                 | 65.00                 |
| 1,066.01 through 1,092.00                                 | 66.00                 |
| 1,092.01 through 1,118.00                                 | 67.00                 |
| 1,118.01 through 1,144.00                                 | 68.00                 |
| 1,144.01 through 1,170.00                                 | 69.00                 |
| 1,170.01 through 1,196.00                                 | 70.00                 |
| 1,196.01 through 1,222.00                                 | 71.00                 |
| 1,222.01 through 1,248.00                                 | 72.00                 |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 1,248.01 through 1,274.00 | 73.00  |
| 1,274.01 through 1,300.00 | 74.00  |
| 1,300.01 through 1,326.00 | 75.00  |
| 1,326.01 through 1,352.00 | 76.00  |
| 1,352.01 through 1,378.00 | 77.00  |
| 1,378.01 through 1,404.00 | 78.00  |
| 1,404.01 through 1,430.00 | 79.00  |
| 1,430.01 through 1,456.00 | 80.00  |
| 1,456.01 through 1,482.00 | 81.00  |
| 1,482.01 through 1,508.00 | 82.00  |
| 1,508.01 through 1,534.00 | 83.00  |
| 1,534.01 through 1,560.00 | 84.00  |
| 1,560.01 through 1,586.00 | 85.00  |
| 1,586.01 through 1,612.00 | 86.00  |
| 1,612.01 through 1,638.00 | 87.00  |
| 1,638.01 through 1,664.00 | 88.00  |
| 1,664.01 through 1,690.00 | 89.00  |
| 1,690.01 through 1,716.00 | 90.00  |
| 1,716.01 through 1,742.00 | 91.00  |
| 1,742.01 through 1,768.00 | 92.00  |
| 1,768.01 through 1,794.00 | 93.00  |
| 1,794.01 through 1,820.00 | 94.00  |
| 1,820.01 through 1,846.00 | 95.00  |
| 1,846.01 through 1,872.00 | 96.00  |
| 1,872.01 through 1,898.00 | 97.00  |
| 1,898.01 through 1,924.00 | 98.00  |
| 1,924.01 through 1,950.00 | 99.00  |
| 1,950.01 through 1,976.00 | 100.00 |
| 1,976.01 through 2,002.00 | 101.00 |
| 2,002.01 through 2,028.00 | 102.00 |
| 2,028.01 through 2,054.00 | 103.00 |
| 2,054.01 through 2,080.00 | 104.00 |
| 2,080.01 through 2,106.00 | 105.00 |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 2,106.01 through 2,132.00 | 106.00 |
| 2,132.01 through 2,158.00 | 107.00 |
| 2,158.01 through 2,184.00 | 108.00 |
| 2,184.01 through 2,210.00 | 109.00 |
| 2,210.01 through 2,236.00 | 110.00 |
| 2,236.01 through 2,262.00 | 111.00 |
| 2,262.01 through 2,288.00 | 112.00 |
| 2,288.01 through 2,314.00 | 113.00 |
| 2,314.01 through 2,340.00 | 114.00 |
| 2,340.01 through 2,366.00 | 115.00 |
| 2,366.01 through 2,392.00 | 116.00 |
| 2,392.01 through 2,418.00 | 117.00 |
| 2,418.01 through 2,444.00 | 118.00 |
| 2,444.01 through 2,470.00 | 119.00 |
| 2,470.01 through 2,496.00 | 120.00 |
| 2,496.01 through 2,522.00 | 121.00 |
| 2,522.01 through 2,548.00 | 122.00 |
| 2,548.01 through 2,574.00 | 123.00 |
| 2,574.01 through 2,600.00 | 124.00 |
| 2,600.01 through 2,626.00 | 125.00 |
| 2,626.01 through 2,652.00 | 126.00 |
| 2,652.01 through 2,678.00 | 127.00 |
| 2,678.01 through 2,704.00 | 128.00 |
| 2,704.01 through 2,730.00 | 129.00 |
| 2,730.01 through 2,756.00 | 130.00 |
| 2,756.01 through 2,782.00 | 131.00 |
| 2,782.01 through 2,808.00 | 132.00 |
| 2,808.01 through 2,834.00 | 133.00 |
| 2,834.01 through 2,860.00 | 134.00 |
| 2,860.01 through 2,886.00 | 135.00 |
| 2,886.01 through 2,912.00 | 136.00 |
| 2,912.01 through 2,938.00 | 137.00 |
| 2,938.01 through 2,964.00 | 138.00 |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 2,964.01 through 2,990.00 | 139.00 |
| 2,990.01 through 3,016.00 | 140.00 |
| 3,016.01 through 3,042.00 | 141.00 |
| 3,042.01 through 3,068.00 | 142.00 |
| 3,068.01 through 3,094.00 | 143.00 |
| 3,094.01 through 3,120.00 | 144.00 |
| 3,120.01 through 3,146.00 | 145.00 |
| 3,146.01 through 3,172.00 | 146.00 |
| 3,172.01 through 3,198.00 | 147.00 |
| 3,198.01 through 3,224.00 | 148.00 |
| 3,224.01 through 3,250.00 | 149.00 |
| 3,250.01 through 3,276.00 | 150.00 |
| 3,276.01 through 3,302.00 | 151.00 |
| 3,302.01 through 3,328.00 | 152.00 |
| 3,328.01 through 3,354.00 | 153.00 |
| 3,354.01 through 3,380.00 | 154.00 |
| 3,380.01 through 3,406.00 | 155.00 |
| 3,406.01 through 3,432.00 | 156.00 |
| 3,432.01 through 3,458.00 | 157.00 |
| 3,458.01 through 3,484.00 | 158.00 |
| 3,484.01 through 3,510.00 | 159.00 |
| 3,510.01 through 3,536.00 | 160.00 |
| 3,536.01 through 3,562.00 | 161.00 |
| 3,562.01 through 3,588.00 | 162.00 |
| 3,588.01 through 3,614.00 | 163.00 |
| 3,614.01 through 3,640.00 | 164.00 |
| 3,640.01 through 3,666.00 | 165.00 |
| 3,666.01 through 3,692.00 | 166.00 |
| 3,692.01 through 3,718.00 | 167.00 |
| 3,718.01 through 3,744.00 | 168.00 |
| 3,744.01 through 3,770.00 | 169.00 |
| 3,770.01 through 3,796.00 | 170.00 |
| 3,796.01 through 3,822.00 | 171.00 |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 3,822.01 through 3,848.00 | 172.00 |
| 3,848.01 through 3,874.00 | 173.00 |
| 3,874.01 through 3,900.00 | 174.00 |
| 3,900.01 through 3,926.00 | 175.00 |
| 3,926.01 through 3,952.00 | 176.00 |
| 3,952.01 through 3,978.00 | 177.00 |
| 3,978.01 through 4,004.00 | 178.00 |
| 4,004.01 through 4,030.00 | 179.00 |
| 4,030.01 through 4,056.00 | 180.00 |
| 4,056.01 through 4,082.00 | 181.00 |
| 4,082.01 through 4,108.00 | 182.00 |
| 4,108.01 through 4,134.00 | 183.00 |
| 4,134.01 through 4,160.00 | 184.00 |
| 4,160.01 through 4,186.00 | 185.00 |
| 4,186.01 through 4,212.00 | 186.00 |
| 4,212.01 through 4,238.00 | 187.00 |
| 4,238.01 through 4,264.00 | 188.00 |
| 4,264.01 through 4,290.00 | 189.00 |
| 4,290.01 through 4,316.00 | 190.00 |
| 4,316.01 through 4,342.00 | 191.00 |
| 4,342.01 through 4,368.00 | 192.00 |
| 4,368.01 through 4,394.00 | 193.00 |
| 4,394.01 through 4,420.00 | 194.00 |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after July 4, 1993)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 4,420.01 through \$ 4,446.00                           | \$220.00              |
| 4,446.01 through 4,472.00                                 | 221.00                |
| 4,472.01 through 4,498.00                                 | 222.00                |
| 4,498.01 through 4,524.00                                 | 223.00                |
| 4,524.01 through 4,550.00                                 | 224.00                |
| 4,550.01 through 4,576.00                                 | 225.00                |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 4,576.01 through 4,602.00 | 226.00 |
| 4,602.01 through 4,628.00 | 227.00 |
| 4,628.01 through 4,654.00 | 228.00 |
| 4,654.01 through 4,680.00 | 229.00 |
| 4,680.01 through 4,706.00 | 230.00 |
| 4,706.01 through 4,732.00 | 231.00 |
| 4,732.01 through 4,758.00 | 232.00 |
| 4,758.01 through 4,784.00 | 233.00 |
| 4,784.01 through 4,810.00 | 234.00 |
| 4,810.01 through 4,836.00 | 235.00 |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after July 3, 1994)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 4,836.01 through \$ 4,862.00                           | \$236.00              |
| 4,862.01 through 4,888.00                                 | 237.00                |
| 4,888.01 through 4,914.00                                 | 238.00                |
| 4,914.01 through 4,940.00                                 | 239.00                |
| 4,940.01 through 4,966.00                                 | 240.00                |
| 4,966.01 through 4,992.00                                 | 241.00                |
| 4,992.01 through 5,018.00                                 | 242.00                |
| 5,018.01 through 5,044.00                                 | 243.00                |
| 5,044.01 through 5,070.00                                 | 244.00                |
| 5,070.01 through 5,096.00                                 | 245.00                |
| 5,096.01 through 5,122.00                                 | 246.00                |
| 5,122.01 through 5,148.00                                 | 247.00                |
| 5,148.01 through 5,174.00                                 | 248.00                |
| 5,174.01 through 5,200.00                                 | 249.00                |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after July 7, 1996)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 5,200.01 through \$ 5,226.00                           | \$250.00              |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 5,226.01 through 5,252.00 | 251.00 |
| 5,252.01 through 5,278.00 | 252.00 |
| 5,278.01 through 5,304.00 | 253.00 |
| 5,304.01 through 5,330.00 | 254.00 |
| 5,330.01 through 5,356.00 | 255.00 |
| 5,356.01 through 5,382.00 | 256.00 |
| 5,382.01 through 5,408.00 | 257.00 |
| 5,408.01 through 5,434.00 | 258.00 |
| 5,434.01 through 5,460.00 | 259.00 |
| 5,460.01 through 5,486.00 | 260.00 |
| 5,486.01 through 5,512.00 | 261.00 |
| 5,512.01 through 5,538.00 | 262.00 |
| 5,538.01 through 5,564.00 | 263.00 |
| 5,564.01 through 5,590.00 | 264.00 |
| 5,590.01 through 5,616.00 | 265.00 |
| 5,616.01 through 5,642.00 | 266.00 |
| 5,642.01 through 5,668.00 | 267.00 |
| 5,668.01 through 5,694.00 | 268.00 |
| 5,694.01 through 5,720.00 | 269.00 |
| 5,720.01 through 5,746.00 | 270.00 |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after July 6, 1997)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 5,746.01 through \$ 5,772.00                           | \$271.00              |
| 5,772.01 through 5,798.00                                 | 272.00                |
| 5,798.01 through 5,824.00                                 | 273.00                |
| 5,824.01 through 5,850.00                                 | 274.00                |
| 5,850.01 through 5,876.00                                 | 275.00                |
| 5,876.01 through 5,902.00                                 | 276.00                |
| 5,902.01 through 5,928.00                                 | 277.00                |
| 5,928.01 through 5,954.00                                 | 278.00                |
| 5,954.01 through 5,980.00                                 | 279.00                |

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 5,980.01 through 6,006.00 | 280.00 |
| 6,006.01 through 6,032.00 | 281.00 |
| 6,032.01 through 6,058.00 | 282.00 |
| 6,058.01 through 6,084.00 | 283.00 |
| 6,084.01 through 6,110.00 | 284.00 |
| 6,110.01 through 6,136.00 | 285.00 |
| 6,136.01 through 6,162.00 | 286.00 |
| 6,162.01 through 6,188.00 | 287.00 |
| 6,188.01 through 6,214.00 | 288.00 |
| 6,214.01 through 6,240.00 | 289.00 |
| 6,240.01 through 6,266.00 | 290.00 |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after July 5, 1998)

| <u>COLUMN A</u>   | <u>COLUMN B</u>       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
| \$ 6,266.01 through \$ 6,292.00                           | \$291.00              |
| 6,292.01 through 6,318.00                                 | 292.00                |
| 6,318.01 through 6,344.00                                 | 293.00                |
| 6,344.01 through 6,370.00                                 | 294.00                |
| 6,370.01 through 6,396.00                                 | 295.00                |
| 6,396.01 through 6,422.00                                 | 296.00                |
| 6,422.01 through 6,448.00                                 | 297.00                |
| 6,448.01 through 6,474.00                                 | 298.00                |
| 6,474.01 through 6,500.00                                 | 299.00                |
| 6,500.01 through 6,526.00                                 | 300.00                |
| 6,526.01 through 6,552.00                                 | 301.00                |
| 6,552.01 through 6,578.00                                 | 302.00                |
| 6,578.01 through 6,604.00                                 | 303.00                |
| 6,604.01 through 6,630.00                                 | 304.00                |
| 6,630.01 through 6,656.00                                 | 305.00                |

(Effective for Benefit Years Established on or after August 5, 2001)

| <u>COLUMN A</u> | <u>COLUMN B</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|
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| Average Wages Paid in Highest Two Quarters of Base Period | Weekly Benefit Amount |
|---|-----------------------|
| \$ 6,656.01 through \$ 6,682.00                           | \$306.00              |
| 6,682.01 through 6,708.00                                 | 307.00                |
| 6,708.01 through 6,734.00                                 | 308.00                |
| 6,734.01 through 6,760.00                                 | 309.00                |
| 6,760.01 through 6,786.00                                 | 310.00                |
| 6,786.01 through 6,812.00                                 | 311.00                |
| 6,812.01 through 6,838.00                                 | 312.00                |
| 6,838.01 through 6,864.00                                 | 313.00                |
| 6,864.01 through 6,890.00                                 | 314.00                |
| 6,890.01 through 6,916.00                                 | 315.00                |
| 6,916.01 through 6,942.00                                 | 316.00                |
| 6,942.01 through 6,968.00                                 | 317.00                |
| 6,968.01 through 6,994.00                                 | 318.00                |
| 6,994.01 through 7,020.00                                 | 319.00                |
| 7,020.01 through 7,046.00                                 | 320.00                |
| 7,046.01 through 7,072.00                                 | 321.00                |
| 7,072.01 through 7,098.00                                 | 322.00                |
| 7,098.01 through 7,124.00                                 | 323.00                |
| 7,124.01 through 7,150.00                                 | 324.00                |
| 7,150.01 and over   | 325.00                |

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 50-7-301, is amended by deleting subsection (d) and substituting:

**(d) Maximum Benefits.**

(1) Beginning with those benefit years established on July 4, 1983, and ending November 30, 2023, a claimant is eligible during a benefit year to a total amount of benefits equal to whichever is the lesser of:

(A) Twenty-six (26) times the claimant's weekly benefit amount; or

(B) One-fourth (1/4) of the claimant's wages for insured work paid.

(2) Beginning with those benefit years established on December 1, 2023, a claimant is eligible during a benefit year to a total amount of benefits:

(A) Equal to:

(i) Twelve (12) weeks, if the state average unemployment rate is at or below five and five-tenths percent (5.5%); and

(ii) An additional week in addition to the twelve (12) weeks described in subdivision (d)(2)(A)(i) for each five-tenths percent

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(0.5%) increment in the state's average unemployment rate above five and five-tenths percent (5.5%); and

(B) Up to a maximum of twenty (20) weeks if the state's average unemployment rate exceeds nine percent (9%).

(3)

(A) The total amount of benefits, if not a multiple of one dollar (\$1.00), must be computed at the next lower multiple of one dollar (\$1.00).

(B) A claimant is not entitled to benefits if the claimant's base period earnings are less than forty (40) times the claimant's weekly benefit amount.

(C) A claimant is not entitled to benefits if the claimant's base period earnings, outside the claimant's highest calendar quarter of earnings, are less than the lesser of six (6) times the claimant's weekly benefit amount or nine hundred dollars (\$900).

(4)

(A) For purposes of subdivision (d)(2)(A), the department shall determine the state average unemployment rate biannually, and the rate must be equal to the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, as published by the United States department of labor.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (d)(2)(A), a claimant's maximum eligibility shall not be reduced or increased during a benefit year for a claim.

SECTION 3. The headings in this act are for reference purposes only and do not constitute a part of the law enacted by this act. However, the Tennessee Code Commission is requested to include the headings in any compilation or publication containing this act.

SECTION 4. Section 1 and Section 2 take effect December 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it; all other provisions of this act take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

HOUSE BILL NO. 1039

PASSED: May 5, 2021

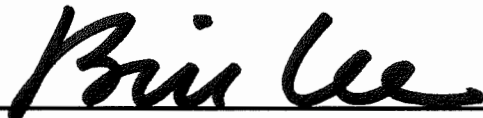


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR