



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2521

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Chapin Rose

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 405/1501

from Ch. 48, par. 571

Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act. Provides that when an individual is determined to be eligible for benefits, the Department of Employment Security shall provide an explanation of the source of income upon which the benefits are based and whether additional benefits are being provided under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020. Requires disclosure of the benefit amount, the benefit amount for which the claimant is eligible, and the date the benefit was paid. Provides that if benefits are reduced, an explanation of the reduction must be given.

LRB102 16389 JLS 21778 b

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Unemployment Insurance Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 1501 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 405/1501) (from Ch. 48, par. 571)

7 Sec. 1501. Benefit wages. A. When an individual is paid  
8 regular benefits (defined in Section 409) under this Act, with  
9 respect to any benefit year which begins prior to November 4,  
10 1979, which, when added to such regular benefits previously  
11 paid him for the same benefit year, equal or exceed three times  
12 his weekly benefit amount for the benefit year, his wages  
13 during his base period shall immediately become benefit wages.

14 B. When an individual is paid regular benefits with  
15 respect to a week in any benefit year which begins on or after  
16 November 4, 1979, an amount equal to 1/26 of the wages for  
17 insured work, but not in excess of 1/26 of \$6,000, paid to him  
18 by each employer during his base period shall immediately  
19 become benefit wages provided, however, that no payment of  
20 regular benefits made on or after July 1, 1989, shall become  
21 benefit wages. Such amount, if not a multiple of \$1, shall be  
22 rounded to the next higher dollar.

23 C. When an individual is first paid extended benefits with

1 respect to his eligibility period (defined in Section 409),  
2 one-half of the wages for insured work paid to him by each  
3 employer during his base period applicable to the benefit year  
4 in which his eligibility period began shall immediately become  
5 benefit wages, whether or not they had previously become  
6 benefit wages. This subsection shall apply only to eligibility  
7 periods beginning in benefit years which commence prior to  
8 November 4, 1979.

9 D. When an individual is paid extended benefits with  
10 respect to any week in an eligibility period beginning in a  
11 benefit year commencing on or after November 4, 1979, an  
12 amount equal to 1/13 of one-half of the wages for insured work,  
13 but not in excess of 1/13 of \$3,000, paid to him by each  
14 employer during his base period applicable to the benefit year  
15 in which the eligibility period began, shall immediately  
16 become benefit wages, whether or not any part of such wages had  
17 previously become benefit wages provided, however, that no  
18 payment of extended benefits made on or after July 1, 1989,  
19 shall become benefit wages. Such amount, if not a multiple of  
20 \$1, shall be rounded to the next higher dollar.

21 E. Notwithstanding the foregoing subsections, an  
22 individual's wages shall not become benefit wages if he  
23 cannot, on the basis of such wages, meet the qualifying  
24 requirements of Section 500E, or if, by reason of the  
25 application of Section 602B, no benefit rights can accrue to  
26 him on the basis of such wages, but he is paid benefits because

1 the wages have been combined in accordance with the provisions  
2 of Section 2700 and provided further that an individual's  
3 wages shall not become benefit wages if, by reason of the  
4 application of the third paragraph of Section 237, he is paid  
5 benefits based upon wages other than those paid in a base  
6 period as defined in the second paragraph of Section 237.

7 F. Notwithstanding the foregoing subsection, wages paid by  
8 a base period employer, subject to payment of contributions,  
9 to an individual who voluntarily leaves that employer shall  
10 not become benefit wages with respect to that employer but  
11 shall instead become the benefit wages of the individual's  
12 next subsequent employer if:

13 1. The individual had subsequent employment and earned 6  
14 times his weekly benefit amount or more, prior to the  
15 beginning of his benefit year; or

16 2. For a benefit year beginning after December 31, 1986,  
17 the individual was determined to be ineligible for benefits  
18 pursuant to Section 601 from the last employing unit which was  
19 also a base period employer but thereafter earned 6 times his  
20 weekly benefit amount or more from his next subsequent  
21 employer during his benefit year, provided that the  
22 disqualifying separation occurred prior to the first payment  
23 of benefits in the individual's benefit year.

24 Wages paid to an individual during his base period by an  
25 employer for less than full time work, performed during the  
26 same weeks in the base period during which the individual had

1 other insured work, shall not become benefit wages (upon such  
2 employer's request pursuant to the regulation of the Director)  
3 so long as the employer continued after the end of the base  
4 period, and continues during the applicable benefit year, to  
5 furnish such less than full time work to the individual on the  
6 same basis and in substantially the same amount during the  
7 base period. If the individual is paid benefits with respect  
8 to a week (in the applicable benefit year) after the employer  
9 has ceased to furnish the work hereinabove described, the  
10 wages paid by the employer to the individual during his base  
11 period shall become benefit wages as provided in this Section.

12 G. For the purposes of this Section and of Section 1504,  
13 benefits shall be deemed to have been paid on the date such  
14 payment has been mailed to the individual by the Director.

15 H. If any benefit wages are increased by reason of the  
16 reconsideration by a claims adjudicator of his finding, the  
17 amount of such increase shall be treated as if it became  
18 benefit wages on the day on which the claims adjudicator made  
19 the reconsidered finding.

20 I. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section,  
21 no wages paid by a base period employer shall become benefit  
22 wages after September 30, 1989, and no wages paid by a base  
23 period employer, subject to the payment of contributions,  
24 shall become the benefit wages of the individual's next  
25 subsequent employer under the provisions of subsection F above  
26 after September 30, 1989.

1       J. When an individual is determined to be eligible for  
2 regular benefits, as defined in Section 409, under this Act or  
3 for federal unemployment benefits as provided under the  
4 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the CARES  
5 Act), Public Law 116-136, and the Further Consolidated  
6 Appropriations Act, 2020, Public Law 116-94, the Department  
7 must list on a determination letter the employers or source of  
8 income on which the determination of weekly benefit amount is  
9 based. The Department shall also disclose in the determination  
10 letter any additional unemployment benefits provided under the  
11 CARES Act or the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020  
12 to which the individual is entitled.

13       Upon sending a determination letter, either through mail  
14 or electronic communications, the Department shall provide  
15 line item updates in an individual's unemployment account that  
16 include:

17           (1) month, day, and year for weekly benefit amount  
18 evaluated;

19           (2) weekly benefit amount for which the claimant is  
20 eligible; and

21           (3) month, day, and year the weekly benefit amount was  
22 paid.

23       If payments are not made for weeks that an individual is  
24 eligible and a larger amount is paid at a later date, the  
25 Department must disclose the weeks to which the payment is  
26 applied. If a weekly benefit amount is reduced, the Department

1 must disclose the reason for that determination.

2 (Source: P.A. 85-956.)