

## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## State of Illinois

## 2023 and 2024

#### SB2019

Introduced 2/9/2023, by Sen. Ram Villivalam

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 405/800	from Ch. 48, pa	ar. 470
820 ILCS 405/801	from Ch. 48, pa	ar. 471

Amends the Unemployment Insurance Act. Provides that specified determinations by the Director of Employment Security or a Referee may be appealed within 120 calendar days (rather than 30 calendar days).

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AN ACT concerning employment.

# Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Unemployment Insurance Act is amended by 5 changing Sections 800 and 801 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 405/800) (from Ch. 48, par. 470)

7 Sec. 800. Appeals to referee or director. Except as 8 hereinafter provided, appeals from a claims adjudicator shall 9 be taken to a Referee. Whenever a "determination" of a claims adjudicator involves a decision as to eligibility under 10 Section 604, appeals shall be taken to the Director or his 11 12 representative designated for such purpose. Unless the 13 claimant or any other party entitled to notice of the claims 14 adjudicator's "finding" or "determination," as the case may be, or the Director, within 120 30 calendar days after the 15 delivery of the claims adjudicator's notification of such 16 "finding" or "determination," or within 120 30 calendar days 17 after such notification was mailed to his last known address, 18 files an appeal therefrom, such "finding" or "determination" 19 shall be final as to all parties given notice thereof. 20

21 (Source: P.A. 81-1521.)

22 (820 ILCS 405/801) (from Ch. 48, par. 471)

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Sec. 801. Decision of referee or director.

2 A. Unless such appeal is withdrawn, a Referee or the Director, as the case may be, shall afford the parties 3 reasonable opportunity for a fair hearing. At any hearing, the 4 5 record of the claimant's registration for work, or of the claimant's certification that, during the week or weeks 6 affected by the hearing, he was able to work, available for 7 8 work, and actively seeking work, or any document in the files 9 of the Department of Employment Security submitted to it by 10 any of the parties, shall be a part of the record, and shall be 11 competent evidence bearing upon the issues. The failure of the 12 claimant or other party to appear at a hearing, unless he is the appellant, shall not preclude a decision in his favor if, 13 14 on the basis of all the information in the record, he is entitled to such decision. The Referee or the Director, as the 15 16 case may be, shall affirm, modify, or set aside the claims 17 adjudicator's "finding" or "determination," or both, as the case may be, or may remand the case, in whole or in part, to 18 19 the claims adjudicator, and, in such event, shall state the 20 questions requiring further consideration, and give such other instructions as may be necessary. The parties shall be duly 21 22 notified of such decision, together with the reasons therefor. 23 The decision of the Referee shall be final, unless, within 120  $\frac{30}{30}$  calendar days after the date of mailing of such decision, 24 25 further appeal to the Board of Review is initiated pursuant to 26 Section 803.

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B. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the 1 2 Director may by regulation allow the Referee, upon the request 3 of a party for good cause shown, before or after the Referee issues his decision, to reopen the record to take additional 4 5 evidence or to reconsider the Referee's decision or both to reopen the record and reconsider the Referee's decision. Where 6 7 the Referee issues a decision, he shall not reconsider his 8 decision or reopen the record to take additional evidence 9 after an appeal of the decision is initiated pursuant to 10 Section 803 or if the request is made more than 120 <del>30</del> calendar 11 days, or fewer days if prescribed by the Director, after the 12 date of mailing of the Referee's decision. The allowance or denial of a request to reopen the record, where the request is 13 14 made before the Referee issues a decision, is not separately 15 appealable but may be raised as part of the appeal of the 16 Referee's decision. The allowance of a request to reconsider 17 is not separately appealable but may be raised as part of the appeal of the Referee's reconsidered decision. A party may 18 19 appeal the denial of a timely request to reconsider a decision 20 within 120 <del>30</del> calendar days after the date of mailing of notice 21 of such denial, and any such appeal shall constitute a timely 22 appeal of both the denial of the request to reconsider and the 23 Referee's decision. Whenever reference is made in this Act to the Referee's decision, the term "decision" includes a 24 25 reconsidered decision under this subsection.

26 (Source: P.A. 88-655, eff. 9-16-94.)