WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5424

By Delegates Espinosa, Summers, Gearhart, Tully,

Hite, Fehrenbacher, Foster, Linville, Martin, Crouse

and Hornby

[Introduced February 02, 2024; Referred to the

Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §21A-1A-28 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to 2 amend and reenact §21A-2D-2 and §21A-2D-3 of said code; to amend said code by 3 adding thereto a new section, designated §21A-2D-2a; to amend said code by adding 4 thereto a new article, designated §21A-3-1, §21A-3-2, and §21A-3-3; to amend and 5 reenact §21A-6-1 and §21A-6-10 of said code; and to amend said code by adding thereto a 6 new section, designated §21A-6-1d, all relating to eligibility for and amount of 7 unemployment benefits; modifying methodology for calculating maximum benefit rate; 8 modifying benefit table consistent with adoption of indexing; requiring Workforce West 9 Virginia Commissioner take certain actions to verify unemployment insurance claim 10 program integrity; requiring commissioner to review suspicious or potentially improper 11 claims under certain circumstances; defining "state average unemployment rate"; limiting 12 the maximum duration of unemployment benefits based on the state average 13 unemployment rate; requiring Workforce West Virginia to promulgate legislative rules; 14 establishing an internal effective date; reducing maximum benefit for each wage class; 15 requiring work search activities to qualify for unemployment benefits; defining what 16 constitutes work search activities; mandating submittal of proof of work search activities; 17 providing for verification of work search activities; granting commissioner of Workforce 18 West Virginia discretion in verification of work search activities; mandating establishment 19 of process to refer individuals seeking unemployment benefits to job opportunities; 20 requiring individuals receiving referrals to suitable work to apply for and accept that work; 21 mandating employers to report refusal of offer of employment to commissioner; allowing 22 individuals who accept part-time non-suitable employment to receive unemployment 23 benefits without reduction for wages under certain circumstances; making certain 24 individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits exempt from work search 25 requirements; establishing process for notification of work search activity requirements; 26 requiring rulemaking; and setting an internal effective date.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 1A. DEFINITIONS.

§21A-1A-28. Wages; annual threshold wage. average wage; 1 (a) "Wages" means all remuneration for personal service, including commissions, 2 gratuities customarily received by an individual in the course of employment from persons other 3 than the employing unit, as long as such gratuities equal or exceed an amount of not less than \$20 4 each month and which are required to be reported to the employer by the employee, bonuses and 5 the cash value of all remuneration in any medium other than cash except for agricultural labor and 6 domestic service. The term "wages" includes remuneration for service rendered to the state as a 7 member of the state National Guard or Air National Guard only when serving on a temporary basis 8 pursuant to a call made by the Governor under sections one and two, article one-d, chapter fifteen 9 of this code.

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(b) The term "wages" does not include:

11 (1) That part of the remuneration which, after remuneration equal to \$8,000 \$10,000 or, 12 after the amendment and reenactment of this section during the 2009 legislative session, the 13 threshold wage is paid during a calendar year to an individual by an employer or his or her 14 predecessor with respect to employment during any calendar year, is paid to such individual by 15 such employer during such calendar year unless that part of the remuneration is subject to a tax 16 under a federal law imposing a tax against which credit may be taken for contributions required to 17 be paid into a state unemployment fund. For the purposes of this section, the term "employment" 18 includes service constituting employment under any unemployment compensation law of another 19 state; or which as a condition for full tax credit against the tax imposed by the federal 20 Unemployment Tax Act is required to be covered under this chapter; and, except that for the 21 purposes of sections one, ten, eleven and thirteen, article six of this chapter, all remuneration 22 earned by an individual in employment shall be credited to the individual and included in his or her 23 computation of base period wages: Provided, That the remuneration paid to an individual by an

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24 employer with respect to employment in another state or other states upon which contributions 25 were required of and paid by such employer under an unemployment compensation law of such 26 other state or states shall be included as a part of the remuneration equal to the amounts of \$8.000 27 \$10,000. or, after the amendment and reenactment of this section during the 2009 legislative session, the threshold wage herein referred to In applying such limitation on the amount of 28 29 remuneration that is taxable, an employer shall be accorded the benefit of all or any portion of such 30 amount which may have been paid by its predecessor or predecessors: Provided, however, That if 31 the definition of the term "wages" as contained in Section 3306 (b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 32 1954, as amended, is amended to include remuneration in excess of \$8,000 or, after the 33 amendment and reenactment of this section during the 2009 legislative session, the threshold 34 wage paid to an individual by an employer under the federal Unemployment Tax Act during any 35 calendar year, wages for the purposes of this definition shall include remuneration paid in a 36 calendar year to an individual by an employer subject to this chapter or his or her predecessor with 37 respect to employment during any calendar year up to an amount equal to the amount of 38 remuneration taxable under the federal Unemployment Tax Act;

39 (2) The amount of any payment made (including any amount paid by an employer for 40 insurance or annuities, or into a fund, to provide for any such payment) to, or on behalf of, an 41 individual in its employ or any of his or her dependents, under a plan or system established by an 42 employer which makes provision for individuals in its employ generally (or for such individuals and 43 their dependents), or for a class or classes of such individuals (or for a class or classes of such 44 individuals and their dependents) on account of: (A) Retirement; or (B) sickness or accident 45 disability payments made to an employee under an approved state workers' compensation law; or 46 (C) medical or hospitalization expenses in connection with sickness or accident disability; or (D) 47 death;

48 (3) Any payment made by an employer to an individual in its employ (including any amount
49 paid by an employer for insurance or annuities, or into a fund, to provide for any such payment) on

50 account of retirement;

(4) Any payment made by an employer on account of sickness or accident disability, or
medical or hospitalization expenses in connection with sickness or accident disability to, or on
behalf of, an individual in its employ after the expiration of six calendar months following the last
calendar month in which such individual worked for such employer;

(5) Any payment made by an employer to, or on behalf of, an individual in its employ or his or her beneficiary: (A) From or to a trust described in Section 401(a) which is exempt from tax under Section 501(a) of the federal Internal Revenue Code at the time of such payments unless such payment is made to such individual as an employee of the trust as remuneration for services rendered by such individual and not as a beneficiary of the trust; or (B) under or to an annuity plan which, at the time of such payment, is a plan described in Section 403(a) of the federal Internal Revenue Code;

62 (6) The payment by an employer of the tax imposed upon an employer under Section 3101
63 of the federal Internal Revenue Code with respect to remuneration paid to an employee for
64 domestic service in a private home or the employer of agricultural labor;

65 (7) Remuneration paid by an employer in any medium other than cash to an individual in its
66 employ for service not in the course of the employer's trade or business;

67 (8) Any payment (other than vacation or sick pay) made by an employer to an individual in 68 its employ after the month in which he or she attains the age of 65 if he or she did not work for the 69 employer in the period for which such payment is made;

(9) Payments, not required under any contract of hire, made to an individual with respect to
his or her period of training or service in the Armed Forces of the United States by an employer by
which such individual was formerly employed; and

(10) Vacation pay, severance pay or savings plans received by an individual before or after
 becoming totally or partially unemployed but earned prior to becoming totally or partially
 unemployed: *Provided*, That the term totally or partially unemployed does not include: (A)

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Employees who are on vacation by reason of the request of the employees or their duly authorized agent, for a vacation at a specific time, and which request by the employees or their agent is acceded to by their employer; (B) employees who are on vacation by reason of the employer's request provided they are so informed at least ninety days prior to such vacation; or (C) employees who are on vacation by reason of the employer's request where such vacation is in addition to the regular vacation and the employer compensates such employee at a rate equal to or exceeding their regular daily rate of pay during the vacation period.

(c) The reasonable cash value of remuneration in any medium other than cash shall be
 estimated and determined in accordance with rules prescribed by the commissioner, except for
 remuneration other than cash for services performed in agricultural labor and domestic service.

86 (d) "Average annual wage" means the state's average annual wage which is computed on 87 or before September 30 of the year immediately preceding the rate year and is the total 88 remuneration paid by employers as reported on contribution reports on or before that date with 89 respect to all employment during the four consecutive calendar quarters ending on June 30 of that 90 year divided by the average monthly number of individuals performing services in employment 91 during the same four calendar quarters as reported on the contribution reports.

92 "Threshold wage" means the wage amount the employer pays unemployment taxes on for each 93 person in his or her employ during a calendar year. On and after the effective date of the 94 amendment and reenactment of this chapter by the Legislature in 2009, the threshold wage will be 95 \$12,000: Provided, That when the moneys in the unemployment fund reach \$220 million on 96 February 15 of any year, the threshold wage thereafter will be reduced to \$9,000: Provided, 97 however, That each year thereafter the threshold wage shall increase or decrease by the same 98 percentage that the state's average wage increases or decreases

ARTICLE 2D. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM INTEGRITY ACT.

§21A-2D-2.	Unemployment	insurance	program	integrity.
The comn	nissioner shall, on a weekly	y basis, unless othe	erwise specified: be	required to

2	(a) (1) Check the unemployment insurance rolls against the Division of Corrections and
3	Rehabilitation's list of imprisoned individuals to verify eligibility for unemployment benefits and
4	ensure program integrity;
5	(b) (2) Check new hire records against the National Directory of New Hires to verify
6	eligibility for unemployment benefits; and
7	(c) (3) Check the unemployment insurance rolls against a commercially available database
8	that provides cross-matching functions to verify eligibility for unemployment benefits;
9	(4) On a monthly basis, cross-check the unemployment insurance rolls against state death
10	records; and
11	(5) Verify the identity of unemployment claimants by methods including, but not limited to,
12	verifying the identity of an applicant prior to awarding benefits and requiring multi-factor
13	authentication as part of online applications.
	§21A-2D-2a. Automatic claim review.
1	The commissioner shall perform a full eligibility review of suspicious or potentially improper
1 2	The commissioner shall perform a full eligibility review of suspicious or potentially improper claims in cases including, but not limited to:
2	claims in cases including, but not limited to:
2 3	<u>claims in cases including, but not limited to:</u> (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address;
2 3 4	<u>claims in cases including, but not limited to:</u> (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses;
2 3 4 5	 <u>claims in cases including, but not limited to:</u> (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address;
2 3 4 5 6	claims in cases including, but not limited to: (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address; and
2 3 4 5 6	claims in cases including, but not limited to: (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address; and (4) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same bank account.
2 3 4 5 6 7	claims in cases including, but not limited to: (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address; and (4) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same bank account. §21A-2D-3. Data sharing.
2 3 4 5 6 7	claims in cases including, but not limited to: (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address; and (4) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same bank account. §21A-2D-3. Data sharing. The commissioner shall have the authority to may execute a memorandum of
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2	claims in cases including, but not limited to: (1) Multiple or duplicative claims filed online originating from the same IP address; (2) Claims filed online from foreign IP addresses; (3) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same mailing address; and (4) Multiple or duplicative claims filed that are associated with the same bank account. §21A-2D-3. Data sharing. The commissioner shall have the authority to may execute a memorandum of understanding exchange information with any department, agency, or division for information

	<u>§21A-3-1.</u>	Duration	of	benefits;	calculation.
1	<u>(a) For the p</u>	urposes of this article	e, "state avera	ige unemployment rate" m	eans the average
2	of the seasonally ad	justed unemploymer	nt rates for the	e months comprising the p	revious quarter of
3	the most recent cale	ndar year as publish	ned by Workf	orce West Virginia.	
4	<u>(b)</u> For all val	id unemployment co	mpensation	claims submitted during a	calendar year, the
5	maximum duration o	f benefits will be as	follows:		
6	(1) If the stat	e average unemploy	ment rate is	pelow 5.5 percent, the max	kimum duration of
7	benefits will be limite	ed to 14 weeks;			
8	(2) If the sta	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 5.5 perce	nt, but below 6.0
9	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 15 weeks;	
10	(3) If the sta	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 6.0 perce	nt, but below 6.5
11	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 16 weeks;	
12	(4) If the sta	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 6.5 perce	nt, but below 7.0
13	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 17 weeks;	
14	<u>(5) If the sta</u>	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 7.0 perce	nt, but below 7.5
15	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 18 weeks;	
16	<u>(6) If the sta</u>	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 7.5 perce	nt, but below 8.0
17	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 19 weeks;	
18	<u>(7) If the sta</u>	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 8.0 perce	nt, but below 8.5
19	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 20 weeks;	
20	<u>(8) If the sta</u>	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 8.5 perce	nt, but below 9.0
21	percent, the maximu	m duration of benef	its will be limi	ted to 21 weeks; and	
22	<u>(9) If the sta</u>	ite average unempl	oyment rate	is at or above 9.0 perce	<u>nt, the maximum</u>
23	duration of benefits	will be limited to 22 v	weeks.		
	<u>§21A-3-2.</u>				Rulemaking.
1	Workforce W	est Virginia shall pro	omulgate legi	slative rules to carry out th	e requirements of

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2 this article in accordance with §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code.

§21A-3-3.	Effective	date.

The provisions of this article shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

ARTICLE 6. EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY; BENEFITS.

§21A-6-1. Eligibility qualifications.

2 An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits only if the commissioner 3 finds that:

4 (1) He or she has registered for work at and thereafter continues to report at an 5 employment office in accordance with the regulations of the commissioner;

6 (2) He or she has made a claim for benefits in accordance with the provisions of article
7 seven of this chapter §21A-7-1 *et seq*. of this code and has furnished his or her Social Security
8 number, or numbers if he or she has more than one such number;

9 (3) He or she is able to work and is available for full-time work for which he or she is fitted 10 by prior training or experience and is doing that which a reasonably prudent person in his or her 11 circumstances would do in seeking work <u>actively seeking work as defined in §21A-6-1d of this</u> 12 <u>code</u>:

(4) He or she has been totally or partially unemployed during his or her benefit year for a
waiting period of one-week prior to the week for which he or she claims benefits for total or partial
unemployment;

(5) He or she has within his or her base period been paid wages for employment equal to
not less than \$2,200 and must have earned wages in more than one quarter of his or her base
period or, if he or she is not eligible under his or her base period, has within his or her alternative
base period been paid wages for employment equal to not less than \$2,200 and must have earned
wages in more than one quarter of his or her alternative base period; and

(6) He or she participates in reemployment services <u>as defined in §21A-6-1d of this code</u>,
such as job search assistance services, if the individual has been determined to be likely to

23	exhaust regular benefits and needs reemployment services pursuant to a profiling system
24	established by the commissioner, unless the commissioner determines that:
25	(A) The individual has completed such services; or
26	(B) There is justifiable cause for the claimant's failure to participate in such services.
	§21A-6-1d. Jobs and Reemployment Act.
1	(a) In addition to compliance with all other eligibility requirements, an individual shall be
2	eligible and shall remain eligible for unemployment benefits only if he or she actively seeks, and
3	continues to seek, work by conducting at least four work search activities weekly, defined as:
4	(1) Registering for work with the state's labor exchange system, placement firm, temporary
5	work agencies, or educational institution with job placement offices;
6	(2) Logging on and looking for work in the state's labor exchange or other online job
7	matching system;
8	(3) Using reemployment services in job centers or completing similar online or self-service
9	activities, including, but not limited to, obtaining and using labor market and career information,
10	participating in Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) activities,
11	participating in skills assessment for occupational matching, instructional workshops, or other
12	specialized activities;
13	(4) Completing job applications for employers that have, or are reasonably expected to
14	have, job openings, or following through on job referrals or job development attempts, as directed
15	by Workforce West Virginia staff;
16	(5) Applying for or participating in employment and training services provided by partner
17	programs in job centers;
18	(6) Participating in work-related networking events, such as job clubs, job fairs, industry
19	association events, or networking groups;
20	(7) Making contacts with, or in-person visits to, employers that have, or are reasonably
21	expected to have, job openings;

22	(8) Taking a civil service examination;
23	(9) Going on interviews with employers, either in-person or virtually; or
24	(10) Performing any other work search activities prescribed or allowed by rules
25	promulgated by Workforce West Virginia.
26	(b) The commissioner shall:
27	(1) Require an individual, at the time of application for unemployment benefits and weekly
28	thereafter, to provide proof of all his or her work search activities;
29	(2) Verify submissions of proof of work search activities by individuals applying for or
30	receiving unemployment benefits; and
31	(3) Determine any individual who fails to perform work search activities or provide proof of
32	work search activities as required by this section ineligible to receive unemployment benefits
33	unless the individual can reasonably explain his or her failure to do so or timely remedy the failure
34	to provide proof of his or her work search activity.
35	(c) The commissioner shall have discretion to determine the sufficiency of the proof of work
36	search activities submitted, the explanation of a failure to submit such proof, the provision of such
37	proof after an inaccuracy in the proof provided is identified, and whether an individual has
38	otherwise complied with the requirements of this section.
39	(d) The commissioner shall, utilizing existing resources:
40	(1) Establish a process by which Workforce West Virginia will share open positions
41	submitted to or posted by the Division of Personnel or any other state-administered job board by
42	employers directly with individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits; and
43	(2) Establish a process by which, for the purpose of helping individuals applying for or
44	receiving unemployment benefits secure suitable work, Workforce West Virginia shall refer
45	individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits to such open positions, including
46	facilitating contact between employers and those individuals and monitoring whether those
47	individuals are sufficiently responsive to a referral.

48	(e) An individual applying for or receiving unemployment benefits who receives referrals
49	from Workforce West Virginia to a job or jobs considered to be suitable, as that term is defined in
50	this chapter, shall apply for that job or those jobs within one-week of receiving the referrals and
51	accept employment in suitable work if offered.
52	(f) Employers shall report the refusal of any individual who is receiving unemployment
53	benefits and who receives job referrals from Workforce West Virginia to accept an offer of
54	employment to the commissioner. The report shall be made in writing in a manner prescribed by
55	the commissioner and shall be signed by the employer. The report shall become part of the file of
56	the individual's claim for benefits.
57	(g) Individuals receiving unemployment benefits who accept a referral to a part-time open
58	position or otherwise accept part-time employment for which the wages are less than his or her
59	weekly benefit rate shall continue to receive unemployment benefits without reduction for those
60	wages for the duration of his or her benefits period.
61	(h) With the exception of individuals who have received or been served with a summons for
62	jury duty or are serving on a jury in any court of this state, the United States, or any state of the
63	United States; are receiving vocational training as described in the provisions of §21A-6-4 of this
64	code; or who are members in good standing of a union that refers its members to employment from
65	a union hall; all individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits shall be subject to the
66	requirements of this section, including, but not limited to, individuals who are seasonally
67	unemployed or laid off subject to recall by their employer.
68	(i) Workforce West Virginia shall notify individuals seeking benefits, at the time an initial
69	claim is filed and at any other time during the benefit year that the requirements substantively
70	change, of the obligation to actively seek work. Delivery of the notification shall be made by the
71	method selected by the individual seeking benefits, and may include United States mail, email,
72	online mailbox, or text message. The notification shall include, at a minimum, the types of work
73	search activities that are acceptable; the number of work search activities that are required in any

- 74 week; the requirement that work search activities be documented; and the requirement to apply,
- 75 and accept if offered, suitable jobs referred by the agency.
- 76 (j) The commissioner shall promulgate rules for legislative approval in accordance with the
- provisions of §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code.
- 78 (k) The provisions of this section shall become effective January 1, 2024.

§21A-6-10. Benefit rate — Total unemployment; annual computation and publication of rates.

1 (a) Each eligible individual who is totally unemployed in any week shall be paid benefits 2 with respect to that week at the weekly rate appearing in Column (C) in the benefit table in this 3 section, on the line on which in Column (A) there is indicated the employee's wage class, except 4 as otherwise provided under the term "total and partial unemployment" in §21A-1A-27 of this code. 5 However, such amount shall not be more than the maximum weekly benefit amount as defined in 6 §21A-6-10(b) of this code. The employee's wage class shall be determined by his or her base 7 period wages as shown in Column (B) in the benefit table. The right of an employee to receive 8 benefits shall may not be prejudiced nor the amount thereof be diminished by reason of failure by an employer to pay either the wages earned by the employee or the contribution due on such 9 10 wages. An individual who is totally unemployed but earns in excess of \$60 as a result of odd job or 11 subsidiary work, or is paid a bonus in any benefit week shall be paid benefits for such week in 12 accordance with the provisions of this chapter pertaining to benefits for partial unemployment.

- (b) (1) The maximum benefit for each wage class shall be equal to 26 times the weeklybenefit rate.
- (2) The maximum weekly benefit rate shall be 66 and two-thirds 55 percent of the average
 weekly wage in West Virginia as determined by the commissioner rounded to the next lowest
 multiple of \$1, not to exceed \$550.
- (c) On July 1 of each year, the commissioner shall determine the maximum weekly benefit
 rate upon the basis of the formula set forth above and shall establish wage classes as are

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20 required, increasing or decreasing the amount of the base period wages required for each wage 21 class by \$150, establishing the weekly benefit rate for each wage class by rounded dollar amount 22 to be 55 percent of one fifty-second of the median dollar amount of wages in the base period for 23 such wage class and establishing the maximum benefit for each wage class as an amount equal to 24 twenty-six times the weekly benefit rate. Provided, That the commissioner shall may not increase 25 or decrease the maximum weekly benefit rate for the period beginning on the effective date of the 26 amendment and reenactment of this section in the regular session of the Legislature in 2009 until 27 the threshold wage is reduced to \$9,000, as required by §21A-1A-28(d) of this code The maximum 28 weekly benefit rate, when computed by the commissioner, in accordance with the foregoing 29 provisions, shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$1.

30 (d) After he or she has established such the wage classes, the commissioner shall prepare
31 and publish a table setting forth such that information.

(e) Average weekly wage shall be computed by dividing the number of employees in West Virginia earning wages in covered employment into the total wages paid to employees in West Virginia in covered employment, and by further dividing said the result by 52, and shall be determined from employer wage and contribution reports for the previous calendar year which are furnished to the department on or before June 1 following such calendar year. The average weekly wage, as determined by the commissioner, shall be rounded to the next higher dollar.

(f) The computation and determination of rates as aforesaid shall be completed annually before July 1 and any such new wage class, with its corresponding wages in base period, weekly benefit rate, and maximum benefit in a benefit year established by the commissioner in the foregoing manner effective on July 1 shall apply only to a new claim established by a claimant on and after July 1, and does not apply to continued claims of a claimant based on his or her new claim established before said July 1.

44 BENEFIT TABLE

А		В	С	
WAGE	WAG	GES IN	WEEKLY	MAXIMUM
CLASS	BASE	PERIOD	BENEFIT RATE	BENEFIT RATE
	Under \$2	2,200.00	Ineligible	
1 \$	2,200.00	- 2,359.99	24.00	624.00
2	2,350.00	- 2,499.99	25.00	650.00
3	2,500.00	- 2,649.99	27.00	702.00
4	2,650.00	- 2,799.99	28.00	728.00
5	2,800.00	- 2,949.99	30.00	780.00
6	2,950.00	- 3,099.99	31.00	806.00
7	3,100.00	- 3,249.99	33.00	858.00
8	3,250.00	- 3,399.99	35.00	910.00
9	3,400.00	- 3,549.99	36.00	936.00
10	3,550.00	- 3,699.99	38.00	988.00
11	3,700.00	- 3,849.99	39.00	1,014.00
12	3,850.00	- 3,999.99	41.00	1,066.00
13	4,000.00	- 4,149.99	43.00	1,118.00
14	4,150.00	- 4,299.99	44.00	1,144.00
15	4,300.00	- 4,449.99	46.00	1,196.00
16	4,450.00	- 4,599.99	47.00	1,222.00
17	4,600.00	- 4,749.99	49.00	1,274.00
18	4,750.00	- 4,899.99	51.00	1,326.00
19	4,900.00	- 5,049.99	52.00	1,352.00
20	5,050.00	- 5,199.99	54.00	1,404.00
21	5,200.00	- 5,349.99	55.00	1,430.00
22	5,350.00	- 5,499.99	57.00	1,482.00
23	5,500.00	- 5,649.99	58.00	1,508.00
24	5,650.00	- 5,799.99	60.00	1,560.00

25	5,800.00	-	5,949.99	62.00	1,612.00
26	5,950.00	-	6,099.99	63.00	1,638.00
27	6,100.00	-	6,249.99	65.00	1,690.00
28	6,250.00	-	6,399.99	66.00	1,716.00
29	6,400.00	-	6,549.99	68.00	1,768.00
30	6,550.00	-	6,699.99	70.00	1,820.00
31	6,700.00	-	6,849.99	71.00	1,846.00
32	6,850.00	-	6,999.99	73.00	1,898.00
33	7,000.00	-	7,149.99	74.00	1,924.00
34	7,150.00	-	7,299.99	76.00	1,976.00
35	7,300.00	-	7,449.99	78.00	2,028.00
36	7,450.00	-	7,599.99	79.00	2,054.00
37	7,600.00	-	7,749.99	81.00	2,106.00
38	7,750.00	-	7,899.99	82.00	2,132.00
39	7,900.00	-	8,049.99	84.00	2,184.00
40	8,050.00	-	8,199.99	85.00	2,210.00
41	8,200.00	-	8,349.99	87.00	2,262.00
42	8,350.00	-	8,499.99	89.00	2,314.00
43	8,500.00	-	8,649.99	90.00	2,340.00
44	8,650.00	-	8,799.99	92.00	2,392.00
45	8,800.00	-	8,949.99	93.00	2,418.00
46	8,950.00	-	9,099.99	95.00	2,470.00
47	9,100.00	-	9,249.99	97.00	2,522.00
48	9,250.00	-	9,399.99	98.00	2,548.00
49	9,400.00	-	9,549.99	100.00	2,600.00
50	9,550.00	-	9,699.99	101.00	2,626.00
51	9,700.00	-	9,849.99	103.00	2,678.00
52	9,850.00	-	9,999.99	104.00	2,704.00

10,000.00	-	10,149.99	106.00	2,756.00
10,150.00	-	10,299.99	108.00	2,808.00
10,300.00	-	10,449.99	109.00	2,834.00
10,450.00	-	10,599.99	111.00	2,886.00
10,600.00	-	10,749.99	112.00	2,912.00
10,750.00	-	10,899.99	114.00	2,964.00
10,900.00	-	11,049.99	116.00	3,016.00
11,050.00	-	11,199.99	117.00	3,042.00
11,200.00	-	11,349.99	119.00	3,094.00
11,350.00	-	11,499.99	120.00	3,120.00
11,500.00	-	11,649.99	122.00	3,172.00
11,650.00	-	11,799.99	124.00	3,224.00
11,800.00	-	11,949.99	125.00	3,250.00
11,950.00	-	12,099.99	127.00	3,302.00
12,100.00	-	12,249.99	128.00	3,328.00
12,250.00	-	12,399.99	130.00	3,380.00
12,400.00	-	12,549.99	131.00	3,406.00
12,550.00	-	12,699.99	133.00	3,458.00
12,700.00	-	12,849.99	135.00	3,510.00
12,850.00	-	12,999.99	136.00	3,536.00
13,000.00	-	13,149.99	138.00	3,588.00
13,150.00	-	13,299.99	139.00	3,614.00
13,300.00	-	13,449.99	141.00	3,666.00
13,450.00	-	13,599.99	143.00	3,718.00
13,600.00	-	13,749.99	144.00	3,744.00
13,750.00	-	13,899.99	146.00	3,796.00
13,900.00	-	14,049.99	147.00	3,822.00
14,050.00	-	14,199.99	149.00	3,874.00
	10,150.00 10,300.00 10,450.00 10,600.00 10,750.00 11,050.00 11,050.00 11,350.00 11,650.00 11,800.00 12,100.00 12,250.00 12,400.00 12,550.00 12,700.00 12,850.00 12,850.00 13,000.00 13,150.00 13,150.00	10,150.00-10,300.00-10,450.00-10,600.00-10,750.00-11,050.00-11,200.00-11,500.00-11,650.00-11,800.00-11,950.00-12,100.00-12,550.00-12,550.00-12,700.00-13,000.00-13,150.00-13,150.00-13,450.00-13,750.00-13,750.00-13,900.00-13,900.00-13,900.00-	10,150.00-10,299.9910,300.00-10,449.9910,450.00-10,599.9910,600.00-10,749.9910,750.00-11,0899.9910,900.00-11,049.9911,050.00-11,199.9911,200.00-11,349.9911,500.00-11,499.9911,500.00-11,649.9911,650.00-11,799.9911,800.00-12,099.9912,100.00-12,249.9912,250.00-12,399.9912,700.00-12,699.9912,700.00-12,849.9912,700.00-13,149.9913,150.00-13,299.9913,450.00-13,749.9913,750.00-13,749.9913,750.00-13,899.9913,900.00-13,899.99	10,150.00-10,299.99108.0010,300.00-10,449.99109.0010,450.00-10,599.99111.0010,600.00-10,749.99112.0010,750.00-10,899.99114.0010,900.00-11,049.99116.0011,050.00-11,349.99119.0011,200.00-11,499.99120.0011,500.00-11,649.99122.0011,650.00-11,799.99122.0011,650.00-11,209.99127.0011,800.00-12,099.99127.0012,250.00-12,399.99130.0012,400.00-12,699.99133.0012,700.00-12,849.99135.0012,850.00-12,999.99136.0013,000.00-13,299.99138.0013,000.00-13,449.99141.0013,600.00-13,749.99143.0013,600.00-13,749.99144.0013,750.00-13,899.99144.0013,750.00-13,899.99144.0013,750.00-13,899.99146.0013,900.00-14,049.99147.00

81	14,200.00	-	14,349.99	150.00	3,900.00
82	14,350.00	-	14,499.99	152.00	3,952.00
83	14,500.00	-	14,649.99	154.00	4,004.00
84	14,650.00	-	14,799.99	155.00	4,030.00
85	14,800.00	-	14,949.99	157.00	4,082.00
86	14,950.00	-	15,099.99	158.00	4,108.00
87	15,100.00	-	15,249.99	160.00	4,160.00
88	15,250.00	-	15,399.99	162.00	4,212.00
89	15,400.00	-	15,549.99	163.00	4,238.00
90	15,550.00	-	15,699.99	165.00	4,290.00
91	15,700.00	-	15,849.99	166.00	4,316.00
92	15,850.00	-	15,999.99	168.00	4,368.00
93	16,000.00	-	16,149.99	170.00	4,420.00
94	16,150.00	-	16,299.99	171.00	4,446.00
95	16,300.00	-	16,449.99	173.00	4,498.00
96	16,450.00	-	16,599.99	174.00	4,524.00
97	16,600.00	-	16,749.99	176.00	4,576.00
98	16,750.00	-	16,899.99	177.00	4,602.00
99	16,900.00	-	17,049.99	179.00	4,654.00
100	17,050.00	-	17,199.99	181.00	4,706.00
101	17,200.00	-	17,349.99	182.00	4,732.00
102	17,350.00	-	17,499.99	184.00	4,784.00
103	17,500.00	-	17,649.99	185.00	4,810.00
104	17,650.00	-	17,799.99	187.00	4,862.00
105	17,800.00	-	17,949.99	189.00	4,914.00
106	17,950.00	-	18,099.99	190.00	4,940.00
107	18,100.00	-	18,249.99	192.00	4,992.00
108	18,250.00	-	18,399.99	193.00	5,018.00

109	18,400.00	-	18,549.99	195.00	5,070.00
110	18,550.00	-	18,699.99	196.00	5,096.00
111	18,700.00	-	18,849.99	198.00	5,148.00
112	18,850.00	-	18,999.99	200.00	5,200.00
113	19,000.00	-	19,149.99	201.00	5,226.00
114	19,150.00	-	19,299.99	203.00	5,278.00
115	19,300.00	-	19,449.99	204.00	5,304.00
116	19,450.00	-	19,599.99	206.00	5,356.00
117	19,600.00	-	19,749.99	208.00	5,408.00
118	19,750.00	-	19,899.99	209.00	5,434.00
119	19,900.00	-	20,049.99	211.00	5,486.00
120	20,050.00	-	20,199.99	212.00	5,512.00
121	20,200.00	-	20,349.99	214.00	5,564.00
122	20,350.00	-	20,499.99	216.00	5,616.00
123	20,500.00	-	20,649.99	217.00	5,642.00
124	20,650.00	-	20,799.99	219.00	5,694.00
125	20,800.00	-	20,949.99	220.00	5,720.00
126	20,950.00	-	21,099.99	222.00	5,772.00
127	21,100.00	-	21,249.99	223.00	5,798.00
128	21,250.00	-	21,399.99	225.00	5,850.00
129	21,400.00	-	21,549.99	227.00	5,902.00
130	21,550.00	-	21,699.99	228.00	5,928.00
131	21,700.00	-	21,849.99	230.00	5,980.00
132	21,850.00	-	21,999.99	231.00	6,006.00
133	22,000.00	-	22,149.99	233.00	6,058.00
134	22,150.00	-	22,299.99	235.00	6,110.00
135	22,300.00	-	22,449.99	236.00	6,136.00
136	22,450.00	-	22,599.99	238.00	6,188.00

137	22,600.00	-	22,749.99	239.00	6,214.00
138	22,750.00	-	22,899.99	241.00	6,266.00
139	22,900.00	-	23,049.99	243.00	6,318.00
140	23,050.00	-	23,199.99	244.00	6,344.00
141	23,200.00	-	23,349.99	246.00	6,396.00
142	23,350.00	-	23,499.99	247.00	6,422.00
143	23,500.00	-	23,649.99	249.00	6,474.00
144	23,650.00	-	23,799.99	250.00	6,500.00
145	23,800.00	-	23,949.99	252.00	6,552.00
146	23,950.00	-	24,099.99	254.00	6,604.00
147	24,100.00	-	24,249.99	255.00	6,630.00
148	24,250.00	-	24,399.99	257.00	6,682.00
149	24,400.00	-	24,549.99	258.00	6,708.00
150	24,550.00	-	24,699.99	260.00	6,760.00
151	24,700.00	-	24,849.99	262.00	6,812.00
152	24,850.00	-	24,999.99	263.00	6,838.00
153	25,000.00	-	25,149.99	265.00	6,890.00
154	25,150.00	-	25,299.99	266.00	6,916.00
155	25,300.00	-	25,449.99	268.00	6,968.00
156	25,450.00	-	25,599.99	269.00	6,994.00
157	25,600.00	-	25,749.99	271.00	7,046.00
158	25,750.00	-	25,899.99	273.00	7,098.00
159	25,900.00	-	26,049.99	274.00	7,124.00
160	26,050.00	-	26,199.99	276.00	7,176.00
161	26,200.00	-	26,349.99	277.00	7,202.00
162	26,350.00	-	26,499.99	279.00	7,254.00
163	26,500.00	-	26,649.99	281.00	7,306.00
164	26,650.00	-	26,799.99	282.00	7,332.00

165	26,800.00	-	26,949.99	284.00	7,384.00
166	26,950.00	-	27,099.99	285.00	7,410.00
167	27,100.00	-	27,249.99	287.00	7,462.00
168	27,250.00	-	27,399.99	289.00	7,514.00
169	27,400.00	-	27,549.99	290.00	7,540.00
170	27,550.00	-	27,699.99	292.00	7,592.00
171	27,700.00	-	27,849.99	293.00	7,618.00
172	27,850.00	-	27,999.99	295.00	7,670.00
173	28,000.00	-	28,149.99	296.00	7,696.00
174	28,150.00	-	28,299.99	298.00	7,748.00
175	28,300.00	-	28,449.99	300.00	7,800.00
176	28,450.00	-	28,599.99	301.00	7,826.00
177	28,600.00	-	28,749.99	303.00	7,878.00
178	28,750.00	-	28,899.99	304.00	7,904.00
179	28,900.00	-	29,049.99	306.00	7,956.00
180	29,050.00	-	29,199.99	308.00	8,008.00
181	29,200.00	-	29,349.99	309.00	8,034.00
182	29,350.00	-	29,499.99	311.00	8,086.00
183	29,500.00	-	29,649.99	312.00	8,112.00
184	29,650.00	-	29,799.99	314.00	8,164.00
185	29,800.00	-	29,949.99	315.00	8,190.00
186	29,950.00	-	30,099.99	317.00	8,242.00
187	30,100.00	-	30,249.99	319.00	8,294.00
188	30,250.00	-	30,399.99	320.00	8,320.00
189	30,400.00	-	30,549.99	322.00	8,372.00
190	30,550.00	-	30,699.99	323.00	8,398.00
191	30,700.00	-	30,849.99	325.00	8,450.00
192	30,850.00	-	30,999.99	327.00	8,502.00

193	31,000.00	-	31,149.99	328.00	8,528.00
194	31,150.00	-	31,299.99	330.00	8,580.00
195	31,300.00	-	31,449.99	331.00	8,606.00
196	31,450.00	-	31,599.99	333.00	8,658.00
197	31,600.00	-	31,749.99	335.00	8,710.00
198	31,750.00	-	31,899.99	336.00	8,736.00
199	31,900.00	-	32,049.99	338.00	8,788.00
200	32,050.00	-	32,199.99	339.00	8,814.00
201	32,200.00	-	32,349.99	341.00	8,866.00
202	32,350.00	-	32,499.99	342.00	8,892.00
203	32,500.00	-	32,649.99	344.00	8,944.00
204	32,650.00	-	32,799.99	346.00	8,996.00
205	32,800.00	-	32,949.99	347.00	9,022.00
206	32,950.00	-	33,099.99	349.00	9,074.00
207	33,100.00	-	33,249.99	350.00	9,100.00
208	33,250.00	-	33,399.99	352.00	9,152.00
209	33,400.00	-	33,549.99	354.00	9,204.00
210	33,550.00	-	33,699.99	355.00	9,230.00
211	33,700.00	-	33,849.99	357.00	9,282.00
212	33,850.00	-	33,999.99	358.00	9,308.00
213	34,000.00	-	34,149.99	360.00	9,360.00
214	34,150.00	-	34,299.99	361.00	9,386.00
215	34,300.00	-	34,449.99	363.00	9,438.00
216	34,450.00	-	34,599.99	365.00	9,490.00
217	34,600.00	-	34,749.99	366.00	9,516.00
218	34,750.00	-	34,899.99	368.00	9,568.00
219	34,900.00	-	35,049.99	369.00	9,594.00
220	35,050.00	-	35,199.99	371.00	9,646.00

221	35,200.00	-	35,349.99	373.00	9,698.00
222	35,350.00	-	35,499.99	374.00	9,724.00
223	35,500.00	-	35,649.99	376.00	9,776.00
224	35,650.00	-	35,799.99	377.00	9,802.00
225	35,800.00	-	35,949.99	379.00	9,854.00
226	35,950.00	-	36,999.99	381.00	9,906.00
227	36,100.00	-	36,249.99	382.00	9,932.00
228	36,250.00	-	36,399.99	384.00	9,984.00
229	36,400.00	-	36,549.99	385.00	10,010.00
230	36,550.00	-	36,699.99	387.00	10,062.00
231	36,700.00	-	36,849.99	388.00	10,088.00
232	36,850.00	-	36,999.99	390.00	10,140.00
233	37,000.00	-	37,149.99	392.00	10,192.00
234	37,150.00	-	37,299.99	393.00	10,218.00
235	37,300.00	-	37,449.99	395.00	10,270.00
236	37,450.00	-	37,599.99	396.00	10,296.00
237	37,600.00	-	37,749.99	398.00	10,348.00
238	37,750.00	-	37,899.99	400.00	10,400.00
239	37,900.00	-	38,049.99	401.00	10,426.00
240	38,050.00	-	38,199.99	403.00	10,478.00
241	38,200.00	-	38,349.99	404.00	10,504.00
242	38,350.00	-	38,499.99	406.00	10,556.00
243	38,500.00	-	38,649.99	408.00	10,608.00
244	38,650.00	-	38,799.99	409.00	10,634.00
245	38,800.00	-	38,949.99	411.00	10,686.00
246	38,950.00	-	39,099.99	412.00	10,712.00
247	39,100.00	-	39,249.99	414.00	10,764.00
248	39,250.00	-	39,399.99	415.00	10,790.00

249	39,400.00	- 39,549.99	417.00	10,842.00
250	39,550.00	- 39,699.99	419.00	10,894.00
251	39,700.00	- 39,849.99	420.00	10,920.00
252	39,850.00	- 39,999.99	422.00	10,972.00
253	40,000.00	- 40,149.99	423.00	10,998.00
254	40,150.00	- and above	424.00	11,024.00

NOTE: The purpose of this bill generally relates to eligibility for and amount of unemployment benefits. The bill modifies the methodology for calculating maximum benefit rate. The bill modifies benefit table consistent with adoption of indexing. The bill requires the Workforce West Virginia Commissioner take certain actions to verify unemployment insurance claim program integrity. The bill requires commissioner to review suspicious or potentially improper claims under certain circumstances. The bill defines "state average unemployment rate". The bill limits the maximum duration of unemployment benefits based on the state average unemployment rate. The bill requires Workforce West Virginia to promulgate legislative rules. The bill establishes an internal effective date. The bill reduces the maximum benefit for each wage class. The bill requires work search activities to qualify for unemployment benefits. The bill defines what constitutes work search activities. The bill mandates submittal of proof of work search activities. The bill provides for verification of work search activities. The bill grants the commissioner of Workforce West Virginia discretion in verification of work search activities. The bill mandates the establishment of a process to refer individuals seeking unemployment benefits to job opportunities. The bill requires individuals receiving referrals to suitable work to apply for and accept that work. The bill mandates employers to report refusal of offer of employment to commissioner. The bill allows individuals who accept part-time non-suitable employment to receive unemployment benefits without reduction for wages under certain circumstances. The bill makes certain individuals applying for or receiving unemployment benefits exempt from work search requirements. The bill establishes a process for notification of work search activity requirements. The bill requires rulemaking. The bill sets an internal effective date.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.