## SENATE FILE NO. SF0175

Unemployment insurance coverage-period and reporting.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Kolb, Ide, McKeown and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Bear and Heiner

## A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to labor and employment; reducing the

2 maximum length of unemployment benefits; renaming the

3 unemployment insurance commission; specifying

4 applicability; providing an appropriation; and providing

5 for effective dates.

6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 27-3-102(a)(v), 27-3-304,

27-3-316(c)(ii), 27-3-601(a) and 27-14-802(b) are amended

1

11 to read:

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27-3-102. Definitions generally.

1 (a) Except as otherwise provided, as used in this 2 act: 3 4 (v) "Commission" means the unemployment reemployment insurance commission of Wyoming within the 5 department of workforce services; 6 7 8 27-3-304. Maximum payment. 9 10 Except as provided by W.S. 27-3-316, the maximum amount of 11 benefits payable to any eligible individual in a benefit 12 year shall not exceed twenty six (26) twenty (20) times his weekly benefit or thirty percent (30%) of his wages payable 13 for insured work in his base period, whichever is less. 14 This amount shall be computed to the next higher multiple 15 16 of his weekly benefit. 17 27-3-316. Applicability of regular claim and payment 18 provisions to extended benefits; determination of amount. 19 20 (c) An eligible individual's total extended benefit 21

amount for his applicable benefit year is the lesser of:

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1 (ii) Thirteen (13) Six and one-half (6.5) times 2 his weekly benefit amount under this article for a week of 3 total unemployment in the applicable benefit year. A 4 reduction in an eligible claimant's weekly and potential maximum extended benefit amount, resulting the 5 from application of paragraph (b)(i) of this section, will not 6 7 increase the number of weeks of extended benefit 8 entitlement beyond that specified in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection. 9 10 11 27-3-601. Reemployment insurance commission created; 12 composition; terms; vacancies; salary; chairman; quorum; removal; office; seal. 13 14 15 The <u>unemployment</u> reemployment insurance (a) 16 commission of Wyoming is created within the department of 17 workforce services and shall consist of three (3) members serving a term of six (6) years each. Appointments, 18 vacancies and expiration of terms shall be in accordance 19 20 with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103. A member shall not 21 hold any state office or serve as an officer or on a committee of any political organization during the term of 22

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- 1 membership. No more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the
- 2 members shall be of the same political party.

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- 4 27-14-802. Rulemaking power; fees; state's average
- 5 wages; vocational rehabilitation; contracts with clerks of
- 6 district court.

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- 8 (b) Before the last day of each quarter in each year,
- 9 the department shall estimate the average monthly and
- 10 weekly wage for the twelve (12) months preceding the
- 11 quarter, based on unemployment reemployment insurance
- 12 commission information and other available statistics.

- 14 **Section 2**. There is appropriated eighteen thousand
- 15 dollars (\$18,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming
- 16 department of workforce services for purposes of updating
- 17 and administering the Wyoming unemployment insurance
- 18 system. This appropriation shall be for the period
- 19 beginning with the effective date of this section and
- 20 ending June 30, 2026. This appropriation shall not be
- 21 transferred or expended for any other purpose and any
- 22 unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this

1 appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30,

2 2026.

4 Section 3. This act shall apply to all unemployment

5 claims filed on and after January 1, 2026.

6

7 Section 4.

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9 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this

10 section, this act is effective January 1, 2026.

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12 (b) Sections 2 and 4 of this act are effective

13 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a

14 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of

5

15 the Wyoming Constitution.

16

17 (END)