

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to create a  
2 temporary program, limited to counties with a population under  
3 200,000, to provide additional benefits to unemployed workers by  
4 extending unemployment insurance benefits. The funds for state  
5 additional benefits payable under this Act shall be withdrawn  
6 from the unemployment compensation trust fund pursuant to  
7 sections 383-121 to 383-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes. If  
8 necessary, additional moneys may be allocated from the state  
9 general fund and used for the payment of expenses incurred for  
10 the administration of state additional benefits.

11           SECTION 2. For the purpose of this Act:

12           "Benefit year" shall have the same meaning as in section  
13 383-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

14           "Continued claim certification" means an application that  
15 certifies the completion of a week of total, part-total, or  
16 partial unemployment to claim benefits for a week of  
17 unemployment as described in the definition of "continued claim  
18 certification" in section 12-5-73, Hawaii Administrative Rules.



1 "Initial claim" includes a new claim, an additional claim,  
2 or a reopened claim as defined in section 12-5-73, Hawaii  
3 Administrative Rules.

4 "Regular benefits" means the unemployment insurance  
5 benefits paid on an initial claim filed under chapter 383,  
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, except as provided for in sections  
7 383-168 through 383-176, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

8 "State additional benefits" means the unemployment  
9 compensation benefits payable under this Act.

10 "State additional benefits eligibility period" means the  
11 period beginning on September 4, 2016, and ending on October 28,  
12 2017. No state additional benefits shall be payable for weeks  
13 beginning on or after October 29, 2017.

14 "Week of unemployment" shall have the same meaning as in  
15 section 383-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

16 SECTION 3. In each county with a population under 200,000,  
17 an individual shall be eligible to receive a payment of state  
18 additional benefits with respect to a week of unemployment in  
19 accordance with this Act; provided that:

20 (1) The individual exhausted regular benefits within the  
21 state additional benefits eligibility period, or if



- 1 regular benefits were not exhausted, the individual's  
2 current benefit year expired within the state  
3 additional benefits eligibility period;
- 4 (2) The individual filed an initial claim and filed  
5 continued claim certifications for state additional  
6 benefits during the state additional benefits  
7 eligibility period;
- 8 (3) The week of unemployment falls within the state  
9 additional benefits eligibility period;
- 10 (4) The individual is not eligible to receive unemployment  
11 benefits under federal law or the laws of any other  
12 state, or any federal or federal-state extended  
13 benefits program during the same weeks within the  
14 state additional benefits eligibility period for which  
15 state additional benefits are claimed;
- 16 (5) The individual has enrolled in an approved training or  
17 retraining course pursuant to section 383-29(e),  
18 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- 19 (6) The individual has met all other conditions of  
20 eligibility that apply to regular benefits under  
21 chapter 383, Hawaii Revised Statutes, except that no



1 individual shall be required to serve a waiting period  
2 in the state additional benefits eligibility period.

3 SECTION 4. (a) The weekly state additional benefits  
4 amount payable to an eligible individual for a week of total  
5 unemployment within the state additional benefits eligibility  
6 period shall be an amount equal to the weekly benefit amount  
7 payable in the individual's current or most recently expired  
8 benefit year within the state additional benefits eligibility  
9 period.

10 (b) The maximum state additional benefits amount payable  
11 to any eligible individual during the state additional benefits  
12 eligibility period shall be thirteen times the individual's  
13 weekly state additional benefits amount.

14 (c) No state additional benefits shall be payable for any  
15 week beginning prior to the state additional benefits  
16 eligibility period or for any week beginning after the state  
17 additional benefits eligibility period ends.

18 SECTION 5. State additional benefits paid to an individual  
19 shall be charged against the account of any of the individual's  
20 base period employers in the same manner as regular benefits  
21 were charged on the individual's current or most recently



1 expired benefit year within the state additional benefits  
2 eligibility period.

3 SECTION 6. Except when the result would be inconsistent  
4 with this Act, the provisions of chapter 383, Hawaii Revised  
5 Statutes, that apply to claims for, or the payment of, regular  
6 benefits shall apply to claims for, and the payment of, state  
7 additional benefits.

8 SECTION 7. No provision contained in this Act shall apply  
9 when the balance of the unemployment compensation trust fund is  
10 below the adequate reserve fund defined by section 383-63,  
11 Hawaii Revised Statutes.

12 SECTION 8. No provision contained in this Act shall apply  
13 to the payment of state additional benefits if the provision  
14 conflicts with federal statutes and jeopardizes the receipt of  
15 federal administrative funding and certification for the federal  
16 Unemployment Tax Act employer tax offset credit.

17 If any provision in this Act jeopardizes the receipt of  
18 federal funds, the governor is authorized to revise any  
19 provision of this Act to the extent required to maximize the  
20 receipt of federal funds. The governor shall promptly report



1 any revision and reasons therefor to the legislature at the next  
2 legislative session thereafter.

3 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to  
6 carry out the purposes of this Act.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
8 labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect upon its approval  
10 and shall be repealed on ; provided that section 9  
11 shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

12



**Report Title:**

Unemployment Insurance; State Additional Benefits; Appropriation

**Description:**

Creates a temporary program, limited to counties with a population under 200,000, to provide additional benefits to unemployed workers by extending their unemployment insurance benefits. Make an appropriation.. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

