

**House File 2267 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2267

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**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to the maximum amount of unemployment benefits
- 2 payable during a benefit year.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 96.3, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code  
2 2026, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. *Duration of benefits.* The maximum total amount of  
4 benefits payable to an eligible individual during a benefit year  
5 shall not exceed the total of the wage credits accrued to the  
6 individual's account during the individual's base period, or  
7 ~~sixteen~~ twenty-six times the individual's weekly benefit amount,  
8 whichever is the lesser. The director shall maintain a separate  
9 account for each individual who earns wages in insured work.  
10 The director shall compute wage credits for each individual by  
11 crediting the individual's account with one-third of the wages  
12 for insured work paid to the individual during the individual's  
13 base period. However, the director shall recompute wage credits  
14 for an individual who is laid off due to the individual's  
15 employer going out of business at the factory, establishment,  
16 or other premises at which the individual was last employed,  
17 by crediting the individual's account with one-half, instead of  
18 one-third, of the wages for insured work paid to the individual  
19 during the individual's base period. Benefits paid to an  
20 eligible individual shall be charged against the base period  
21 wage credits in the individual's account which have not been  
22 previously charged, in the inverse chronological order as the  
23 wages on which the wage credits are based were paid. However if  
24 the state "off" indicator is in effect and if the individual is  
25 laid off due to the individual's employer going out of business  
26 at the factory, establishment, or other premises at which the  
27 individual was last employed, the maximum benefits payable shall  
28 be extended to ~~twenty-six~~ thirty-nine times the individual's  
29 weekly benefit amount, but not to exceed the total of the wage  
30 credits accrued to the individual's account.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill provides that the maximum total amount of  
35 unemployment benefits payable to an eligible individual during a

1 benefit year shall not exceed 26 times the individual's weekly  
2 benefit amount, rather than 16 times the weekly benefit amount as  
3 provided under current law.

4 The bill also provides that the maximum total amount of  
5 unemployment benefits payable during a benefit year to an  
6 eligible individual laid off due to the individual's employer  
7 going out of business at the factory, establishment, or other  
8 premises at which the individual was last employed shall not  
9 exceed 39 times the individual's weekly benefit amount, rather  
10 than 26 times the weekly benefit amount as provided under current  
11 law.

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