



## House Bill 192: Unemployment Benefits Sectional Analysis

**Section 1.** Amends AS 23.20.340(d) to require timely payment of weekly benefits during weeks that include a holiday, and implements a penalty payment requirement for late payments to eligible insured workers;

**Section 2.** Amends AS 23.20.340(f) to require a 24-hour payment deadline for payments determined to be due to successful claim appellants where said payments had been withheld while the individual's claim underwent the appeal process;

**Section 3.** Adds a new subsection to AS 23.20.340 that requires the department to develop a contingency plan for occasions when the call center volume is exceeded, and requires timely payment of weekly benefits for claimants who are unable to reach the claim center as requested in response to their weekly claim filing;

**Section 4.** Amends AS 23.20.350(d) to inflation-proof the weekly benefit amount table established in statute;

**Section 5.** Amends AS 23.30.350(f) to inflation-proof the established dependent benefit allowance established in statute;

**Section 6.** Adds a new subsection to AS 23.20.350 to include an annual weekly benefit amount adjustment based on the urban Alaska Consumer Price Index for the prior three years;

**Section 7.** Amends AS 23.20.360 to begin the reduction of benefits following a period of unemployment as of the week the insured worker receives first payment of wages; requires the insured worker to provide accurate documentation of the date of return to employment, and provides a mechanism for recovery of any overpayment to the Unemployment Trust Fund;

**Section 8.** Amends AS 23.20.375(a) to eliminate the waiting week period between an insured worker's initial claim for benefits and receipt of initial claim payment;

**Section 9.** Amends AS 23.20.378(a) to allow an insured worker to claim unemployment benefits during a limited period of travel provided either: the insured worker was permitted to work remotely during their base period of employment, or the insured worker has accepted an offer of work that begins after the period of travel, and they provide documentation that an earlier start date was unavailable.

**Section 10.** Amends AS 23.20.378(c) to remove the waiting week credit period from statute.

**Section 11.** Amends AS 23.20.378 by adding a new subsection that allows the department to collect information about a worker's remote work history when the worker files a benefit claim;

**Section 12.** Amends AS 23.20.379(a) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to voluntary separation and discharge for misconduct;

**Section 13.** Amends AS 23.20.379(b) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to insured workers who have not met the requirements for unemployment benefit payment;

**Section 14.** Amends AS 23.20.379(e) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to insured workers discharged for commission of felony or theft;

**Section 15.** Amends AS 23.20.382(a) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to vocational training or retraining courses;

**Section 16.** Amends AS 23.20.382(b) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to the insured worker's participation in training and retraining approved under U.S. code;

**Section 17.** Amends AS 23.20.382(d) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to the insured worker's participation in training and retraining approved under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998;

**Section 18.** Amends AS 23.20.383(a) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to stoppage of work during labor disputes;

**Section 19.** Amends AS 23.20.520(7) to remove the waiting week credit from statute relating to the definition of "claimant";

**Section 20.** Repeals AS 23.20.375(b) and AS 23.20.520(22).

**Section 21.** Sets an effective date of July 1, 2025.