

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Senator Mia Costello**  
District K – West Anchorage

## **Senate Bill 159—Unemployment Benefits**

### **Explanation of Changes**

### **Version B to Version I**

*"An Act relating to unemployment benefits."*

#### **Sec. 3 – AS 23.20.350(e) Page 2, Lines 17-31, & Page 3, Lines 1-12**

Version I revises the unemployment benefit duration scale by starting at 5.00 percent instead of 7.00 percent, with 14 weeks of benefits instead of 12 weeks. It extends the scale to a total of 26 weeks from 20 weeks.

#### **Sec. 4 – AS 23.20.350(g) Page 3, Lines 13-16**

Version I changes the definition used for “state average unemployment rate” from the average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the third quarter of the calendar year, to the average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the most recently completed quarter.