

Introduced: 2/4/74
Referred: Labor & Management
and Finance

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE BY
REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

1 IN THE HOUSE

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 545

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to employment security; and providing
7 for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 23.20.175(c) is amended to read:

10 (c) For the purposes of secs. 165 and 170 of this chapter,
11 after December 31, 1973, and through December 31, 1974, wages do not
12 include that part of remuneration which, after remuneration equal
13 to \$10,000 has been paid in a calendar year to an individual by
14 an employer or his predecessor with respect to employment, is paid
15 to the individual by the employer during the calendar year unless
16 that part of the remuneration is subject to a tax under a federal
17 law imposing a tax against which a credit may be taken for contribu-
18 tions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 23.20.175 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

20 (d) For the purposes of secs. 165 and 170 of this chapter,
21 beginning January 1, 1975, wages consist of all remuneration paid
22 with respect to employment to an individual by an employer during a
23 calendar year up to \$4,200, plus 90 per cent of the remuneration
24 paid to the individual in excess of \$4,200 up to \$27,000.

25 * Sec. 3. AS 23.20.340(e) is amended to read:

26 (e) The claimant or other party to the determination may file
27 an appeal from the initial determination within 10 days after
28 notification of the determination, or after the date the notice is
29 mailed to his last known address. [IF BENEFITS ARE ALLOWED BY THE

1 INITIAL DETERMINATION, BUT THE RECORD OF THE CASE INDICATES A
2 DISQUALIFICATION HAS BEEN ALLEGED OR MAY EXIST, BENEFITS MAY NOT
3 BE PAID BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FOR APPEAL.]

4 * Sec. 4. AS 23.20.340(f) is repealed.

5 * Sec. 5. AS 23.20.350 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

6 Sec. 23.20.350. AMOUNT OF BENEFITS. (a) To qualify for
7 benefits an individual shall have earned wages in his base period
8 totaling not less than 10 per cent of the statewide average annual
9 wage for the preceding calendar year (rounded to the lower \$100
10 multiple) of which 10 per cent must have been earned in other
11 than the calendar quarter of his base period in which he earned
12 the highest amount of wages, and at least eight times the weekly
13 benefit amount shall have been earned in employment, whether or not
14 covered by this chapter, subsequent to the beginning of a preceding
15 benefit year. For the purpose of this section the statewide
16 average annual wage shall be computed annually as of July 1 by dividing
17 the aggregate amount of wages (disregarding the limit on the amount of
18 wages subject to contributions under sec. 175 of this chapter) for
19 services in covered employment reported by employers as paid during the
20 calendar year immediately preceding July 1 by the 12-month average
21 number of covered employees, as reported by employers.

22 (b) The minimum basic weekly benefit amount payable to an
23 insured worker during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to
24 10 per cent of the statewide average weekly wage effective on the
25 first day of the benefit year for benefit years established after
26 June 30, 1974. The maximum basic weekly benefit amount payable to an
27 insured worker during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to
28 45 per cent of the statewide average weekly wage effective on the first
29 day of the benefit year for benefit years established after June 30,

1 1974, and 50 per cent of the statewide average weekly wage effective
2 on the first day of the benefit year for benefit years established
3 after June 30, 1975. The minimum and maximum basic weekly benefit
4 amounts shall be computed annually as of July 1 and if not multiples
5 of \$1 they shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1, except
6 if the computed amount ends in 50 cents, it shall be adjusted to the
7 next higher multiple of \$1. The minimum and maximum basic weekly
8 benefit amounts shall be effective on the July 1 on which computed.
9 The statewide average weekly wage shall be computed annually as of
10 July 1 by dividing the statewide average annual wage computed under
11 (a) of this section by 52 weeks. The amount computed, if not a
12 multiple of one cent shall be rounded to the next higher multiple
13 of one cent. The statewide average weekly wage shall be effective
14 on the July 1 on which computed.

15 (c) Except as provided in (a) of this section an individual's
16 weekly benefit amount shall be determined by the amount of his total
17 base period wages. An individual earning wages in covered employment
18 equal to or greater than the minimum sum required to qualify for
19 benefits, as determined in (a) of this section, but less than that
20 sum plus \$200, shall be entitled to the minimum weekly benefit amount
21 as computed under (b) of this section. Thereafter, the basic weekly
22 benefit amount shall be increased by \$1 for each \$200 increase in
23 base period earnings up to the level where the benefit amount is
24 equal to \$5 plus 1/100 of the base period earnings, after which the
25 basic weekly benefit amount shall be increased by \$1 for each \$100
26 increase in base period wages until the maximum basic weekly benefit
27 amount as computed under (b) of this section is reached. An individual
28 who establishes a benefit year and who has dependents as defined in
29 (e) of this section is entitled to augmented weekly benefits of \$10

1 per dependent up to three dependents, but the augmented amount may
2 not exceed the basic weekly benefit and the basic weekly benefit
3 together with the augmented amount may not exceed the maximum basic
4 weekly benefit amount as determined under (b) of this section. The
5 number of dependents shall be determined as of the date the individual
6 establishes his benefit year, and shall be fixed for the duration
7 of his benefit year. The department after it has determined the
8 maximum and minimum basic weekly benefit amounts provided in (b)
9 of this section, shall prepare and publish a table showing the range
10 of benefit rates, the base period wages required to qualify for each
11 benefit amount, and the augmented weekly benefit amounts allowed
12 for dependents. The amount payable to any insured worker during
13 his benefit year shall be based on the table effective on the first
14 day of the benefit year.

15 (d) The maximum total amount of benefits payable to an indi-
16 vidual during a benefit year may not exceed the lesser of (1) 28 times
17 his weekly benefit or (2) two-thirds of the covered wages earned by
18 him for employment by subject employers during his base period.
19 The maximum total amount of benefits, if not a multiple of \$1 shall
20 be computed to the next higher multiple of \$1.

21 (e) "Dependent" means an individual's unmarried child, including
22 a stepchild and a legally adopted child, under 18 years of age who
23 is principally supported by the individual. An individual's unmarried
24 child, including a stepchild and a legally adopted child, who because
25 of infirmity is prevented from engaging in a gainful occupation and
26 who is principally dependent upon the individual for support, is
27 considered a dependent for the purpose of this provision regardless
28 of age. For the duration of a benefit year no dependent who has
29 been claimed by a claimant and allowed as a dependent may be included

1 as a dependent of another claimant.

2 * Sec. 6 Sec. 5 of this Act takes effect on July 1, 1974 and applies
3 only to benefit years beginning on or after that date.

4 * Sec. 7. Secs. 1 - 4 of this Act take effect January 1, 1975.
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