

HOUSE No. 4648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 16, 2020.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Senate Bill providing additional support to those affected by the novel coronavirus through the unemployment insurance system (Senate, No. 2618), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4648.

For the committee,

AARON MICHLEWITZ.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

By striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:—

1 SECTION 1. Section 29 of chapter 151A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 43, the words “twenty-five dollars”
3 and inserting in place thereof the following words:- \$40.

4 SECTION 2. Section 30 of said chapter 151A, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
5 striking out, in line 17, the words “amount if,” and inserting in place thereof the following
6 words:- amount if: (i) in any month during the individual's benefit year, the requirements of this
7 section have not been met; or (ii) during the benefit year the number of initial claims filed in any
8 week exceeds 100,000, unless the federal government has authorized a period of extended
9 benefits, in which case the total benefits shall remain at 26 times the benefit rate until the federal
10 extended benefits have been exhausted.

11 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding section 14 of chapter 151A of the General Laws or any
12 general or special law to the contrary, for an individual separated from employment as a result of
13 any circumstance related to or resulting from the effects of the 2019 novel coronavirus, also
14 known as COVID-19, or the effects of the governor’s March 10, 2020 declaration of a state of
15 emergency, benefits paid to that individual under said chapter 151A shall not be charged to the

16 account of any employer nor included in the calculation of an employer's experience rate;
17 provided, however, that such benefits shall be charged to the solvency account to the extent such
18 benefits are not paid for by federal funds.

19 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding sections 14A and 14C of chapter 151A of the General
20 Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, for an individual separated from
21 employment as a result of any circumstance related to or resulting from the effects of the 2019
22 novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, or the effects of the governor's March 10, 2020
23 declaration of a state of emergency, benefits paid to that individual under said chapter 151A shall
24 not be charged to the account of any employer to the extent that such benefits are paid for by
25 federal funds.

26 SECTION 5. Notwithstanding 430 CMR 5.06, 430 CMR 22.06 or any general or special
27 law or rule or regulation to the contrary, a nonprofit organization shall have 120 days from the
28 date of the next scheduled payment due after the effective date of this act to pay contributions or
29 make payment in lieu of contributions pursuant to section 14 or section 14A of chapter 151A of
30 the General Laws without penalty or interest.

31 SECTION 6. Sections 3 and 4 are hereby repealed.

32 SECTION 7. Section 2 shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

33 SECTION 8. Sections 3 and 4 shall take effect as of March 10, 2020.

34 SECTION 9. Section 6 shall take effect 1 year from the effective date of this act or 6
35 months after termination of the governor's March 10, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency,
36 whichever is later.