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HOUSE BILL NO. 131

2

INTRODUCED BY K. SEEKINS-CROWE, G. OVERSTREET, C. SCHOMER, E. TILLEMAN, C. HINKLE, N.  
3 NICOL, F. NAVÉ

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5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE  
6 BENEFITS; REVISING THE RATIO OF TOTAL BASE PERIOD RELATIVE TO CERTAIN FULL WEEKS OF  
7 BENEFITS; PROVIDING A BENEFIT DURATION FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES; AMENDING SECTION 39-51-  
8 2204, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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12 **Section 1.** Section 39-51-2204, MCA, is amended to read:

13 **"39-51-2204. Maximum benefit amount.** (1) Any EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (2), ANY  
14 otherwise eligible individual is entitled during the individual's benefit year to a total amount of benefits equal to  
15 the individual's weekly benefit amount, as calculated according to 39-51-2201, times the number of full weeks  
16 of benefit entitlement appearing in the following table in the line which includes the individual's ratio of total  
17 base period earnings to the highest quarter of earnings in the base period:

Ratio of Total Base Period

Earnings to High Quarter

Full Weeks

At Least	But Less Than	of Benefits
1.00	1.25	8
1.25	1.50	10
1.50	1.75	12
1.75	2.00	14
2.00	2.25	16
2.25	2.50	18
2.50	2.75	20

2.75	3.00	22
3.00	.....	24

1 (2) FOR JOB-ATTACHED CLAIMANTS, UNION-ATTACHED CLAIMANTS, OR CLAIMANTS THAT ARE UNEMPLOYED  
2 RESULTING FROM A MASS LAYOFF AS DEFINED BY THE FEDERAL WORKER ADJUSTMENT AND RETRAINING NOTIFICATION  
3 ACT, 29 U.S.C. 2101(A)(3), ANY OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL IS ENTITLED DURING THE INDIVIDUAL'S BENEFIT YEAR  
4 TO A TOTAL AMOUNT OF BENEFITS EQUAL TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT, AS CALCULATED ACCORDING  
5 TO 39-51-2201, TIMES THE NUMBER OF FULL WEEKS OF BENEFIT ENTITLEMENT APPEARING IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE IN  
6 THE LINE WHICH INCLUDES THE INDIVIDUAL'S RATIO OF TOTAL BASE PERIOD EARNINGS TO THE HIGHEST QUARTER OF  
7 EARNINGS IN THE BASE PERIOD:

### RATIO OF TOTAL BASE PERIOD

<u>EARNINGS TO HIGH QUARTER</u>	<u>FULL WEEKS</u>	
<u>AT LEAST</u>	<u>BUT LESS THAN</u>	<u>OF BENEFITS</u>
<u>1.00</u>	<u>1.25</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>1.25</u>	<u>1.50</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>1.50</u>	<u>1.75</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>1.75</u>	<u>2.00</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>2.00</u>	<u>2.25</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>2.25</u>	<u>2.50</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>2.50</u>	<u>2.75</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>2.75</u>	<u>3.00</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>3.00</u>	.....	<u>24</u>

8 " "

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10 NEW SECTION. **Section 2.** **Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1-5, 2025.

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12        **NEW SECTION. Section 3. Applicability.** [This act] applies to unemployment insurance claims filed  
13      on or after July 4, 2025.

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