

HB 150 -- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Fitzpatrick)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Employment Security

Currently, the maximum total amount of benefits any insured worker may receive during any benefit year must not exceed 20 times his or her weekly benefit amount or 33 1/3% of his or her wage credits, whichever is lesser. This bill repeals that provision and limits benefits during any benefit year to the following:

- (1) 20 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is 9% or higher;
- (2) 19 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is between 8 1/2% and 9%;
- (3) 18 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is 8% up to and including 8 1/2%;
- (4) 17 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is between 7 1/2% and 8%;
- (5) 16 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is 7% up to and including 7 1/2%;
- (6) 15 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is between 6 1/2% and 7%;
- (7) 14 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is 6% up to and including 6 1/2%; and
- (8) 13 weeks if the Missouri average unemployment rate is below 6%.

"Missouri average unemployment rate" means the average statewide unemployment rate during the three months of the most recent third calendar year quarter.

The bill also modifies the method to repay federal advances to the Unemployment Compensation Fund and raises the amount required in the fund before an employer's contribution rate is decreased.