

## **S.F. No. 40 – Additional unemployment benefits program (1<sup>st</sup> Engrossment)**

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**S.F. 40** allows for 26 weeks of additional unemployment benefits to applicants laid off from an iron ore mining industry employer as specified and for applicants laid off from an explosive manufacturing industry employer due to the reduced operations at the iron ore mining operation.

### **Section 1. Iron ore mining additional unemployment benefits program.**

Subdivision 1. **Availability of additional benefits.** Makes additional unemployment benefits available to applicants laid off from:

- (1) an employer in the iron ore mining industry that laid off 50 percent or more of the employer's workforce between April 3, 2022, and March 4, 2023; or
- (2) an explosive manufacturing industry employer providing goods or services to the iron ore mining employer if the layoff was due to cessation or reduction in operations at the iron ore mining operation.

Subdivision 2. **Eligibility requirements.** Specifies eligibility, including end date for the program, for applicants if the applicant (1) established a benefit account with 50 percent or greater of the wage credits from the described iron ore mining industry employer or explosive manufacturing industry employer and has exhausted regular benefits; and (2) meets the requirements for regular unemployment benefits.

### Subdivision 3. **Weekly and maximum amount of additional unemployment benefits.**

Establishes that:

- the weekly benefit amount of additional unemployment benefits is the same as the weekly regular unemployment benefit amount for the applicant; and
- the maximum amount of additional unemployment benefits to an applicant is 26 weeks of payment at the applicant's weekly additional unemployment benefit amount.

Clarifies the amount an applicant would receive if they qualify for a new regular benefit account before the end of the 26 weeks of additional benefits.

Subdivision 4. **Qualifying for a new regular benefit account.** Addresses circumstances under which an applicant under the bill must apply for a new regular benefit account or request additional unemployment benefits.

Subdivision 5. **Charging of benefits.** Prohibits the additional unemployment benefits paid out from being used to calculate the future unemployment tax rate of the employer.

Subdivision 6. **Eligibility for federal Trade Readjustment Allowance benefits.** Prohibits program eligibility if an applicant has been determined eligible for federal Trade Readjustment Allowance benefits.

**Effective date.** Makes the section effective retroactively from August 14, 2022.