

# Legislative Analysis



## INCREASE UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PERIOD

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 5827 as enrolled**

**Sponsor: Rep. Karen Whitsett**

**House Committee: [Placed on second reading]**

**Senate Committee: Labor**

**Complete to 1-24-25**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

*(Vetoed by the Governor 1-17-25)*

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 5827 would amend the Michigan Employment Security Act to increase the maximum number of weeks in a benefit year from 20 to 26, for individuals whose initial claims are filed on or after January 15, 2025.

The bill also would provide that, for benefit years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, the state average weekly wage for a calendar year is to be computed on the basis of the 12 months ending the June 30 immediately before that calendar year.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

MCL 421.27

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would increase benefit payments from the unemployment insurance trust fund by an unknown amount. The increase in costs for the unemployment insurance trust fund would be based on the usage of the additional six weeks of benefits by eligible unemployed individuals and the number of unemployed individuals eligible for benefits. As of June 24, 2024, the unemployment trust fund balance was \$2.67 billion.

### **Vetoed 1-17-25:**

This bill and Senate Bill 40 both proposed to amend section 27 of the Michigan Employment Security Act to increase the maximum weeks of a benefit year from 20 to 26, but each also contained changes to section 27 that were not included in the other. The bills were passed, and enrolled by their respective legislative chamber, the session week of December 10, 2024, but neither bill was amended to take into account the changes proposed by the other so as to ensure that the second bill signed by the governor would not cancel out the amendments made by the first. In the end, the bill signed into law first (as 2024 PA 173) was Senate Bill 40, on December 23. In her veto message, Governor Whitmer said that she was vetoing House Bill 5827 to avoid undoing provisions in Senate

Bill 40 that will increase the maximum weekly benefit rate for individuals and the unemployment benefit rate for each dependent.<sup>1</sup>

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2025/01/17/file\\_attachments/3136689/HB%205827%20\(UIA%20cap\)-%20Veto%20Letter.pdf](https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2025/01/17/file_attachments/3136689/HB%205827%20(UIA%20cap)-%20Veto%20Letter.pdf)