

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 159(L&C)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/18/22

Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): SENATOR COSTELLO

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to unemployment benefits."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 23.20.340(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) An examiner designated by the department shall take the claim. The
5 examiner shall take all evidence pertaining to the eligibility of the claimant, **including**
6 **evidence that the claimant submitted the claim from a duplicate, out-of-state, or**
7 **foreign Internet protocol address,** and shall promptly transmit all evidence to the
8 department. The department, or a representative designated by it for the purpose, shall,
9 **based** on [THE BASIS OF] the evidence submitted and any additional evidence it
10 requires, make an initial determination of [THE CLAIM AS TO] whether the claimant
11 is eligible for benefits under AS 23.20.350 and **make** an initial determination of the
12 weekly benefit amount and the maximum potential benefit amount. **Before making an**
13 **initial determination of the claimant's eligibility, the department shall verify the**
14 **claimant's identity and coordinate with the Department of Health and Social**
15 **Services to review information in the possession of the Department of Health and**

1	<u>8.01-8.50 percent</u>	<u>21</u>
2	<u>8.51-9.00 percent</u>	<u>22</u>
3	<u>9.01-9.50 percent</u>	<u>23</u>
4	<u>9.51-10.00 percent</u>	<u>24</u>
5	<u>10.01-10.50 percent</u>	<u>25</u>
6	<u>10.51 percent and above</u>	<u>26.</u>
7	[LESS THAN 1.50	16
8	1.50-1.99	18
9	2.00-2.49	20
10	2.50-2.99	22
11	3.00-3.49	24
12	3.50 OR MORE	26]

13 * **Sec. 4.** AS 23.20.350(g) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

14 (3) "state average unemployment rate" means the average seasonally
15 adjusted monthly unemployment rate for the most recently completed quarter of the
16 calendar year as reported by the department.

17 * **Sec. 5.** AS 23.20.350(g)(2) is repealed.