AN ACT to amend 108.04 (10) (a) of the statutes; relating to: eligibility of certain employees who are affected by labor disputes for unemployment compensation benefits.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, an employee who leaves or partially or totally loses his or her work with an employer because of a strike or other bona fide labor dispute, other than a lockout, is not eligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits based on the wages paid to the employee prior to the beginning of the dispute for any week in which the dispute is in active progress in the establishment in which the employee is or was employed.

This bill permits such an employee to receive unemployment compensation benefits while a labor dispute is in active progress if the employee is otherwise eligible to receive benefits and the employee is not participating in the dispute and is not a member of the grade or class of workers (usually a collective bargaining unit) of which, immediately before the dispute, there were members employed with the employee’s employer, any of whom are participating in the dispute.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 108.04 (10) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

108.04 (10) (a) An employee who has left or partially or totally lost his or her work with an employing unit because of a strike or other bona fide labor dispute, other than a lockout, is not eligible to receive benefits based on wages paid for employment prior to commencement of the dispute for any week in which the dispute is in active progress in the establishment in which the employee is or was employed, except as provided in par. (b) unless the employee is not participating in the dispute and the employee is not a member of a grade or class of workers of which, immediately before the commencement of the dispute, there were members employed with the employing unit, any of whom are participating in the dispute.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies with respect to weeks of unemployment commencing on the effective date of this subsection.