2021 SENATE BILL 138


1 AN ACT to create 108.141 (8) of the statutes; relating to: federal extended unemployment benefits.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under federal law, the extended benefits program provides for additional weeks of unemployment insurance benefits, which are usually funded 50 percent by the federal government and 50 percent by the particular state. The extended benefits program is activated, and deactivated, in a state when the state’s insured unemployment rate or total unemployment rate reaches certain thresholds, except that federal and state laws also require an “off” period of 13 weeks before an extended benefits period may be activated following a prior extended benefits period for the state. However, the Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 provides that states may opt out of the mandatory 13-week off period between November 1, 2020, and December 31, 2021. The bill provides that DWD may waive this requirement for the 13-week off period under state law if permitted by federal law.

For further information see the state and local 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:

3 SECTION 12m. 108.141 (8) of the statutes is created to read:
108.141 (8) Secretary may waive compliance. Notwithstanding sub. (1) (c) 1. b., the secretary may, if permitted by federal law, waive the prohibition under sub. (1) (c) 1. b. that no extended benefit period may begin by reason of a Wisconsin “on” indicator before the 14th week following the end of a prior extended benefit period that was in effect with respect to Wisconsin.

(END)