

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 6

SESSION: 2011 Regular Session

TOPIC: Unemployment insurance

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Analyst: Anita Neumann (651-296-5056)

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Section

- 1 Business owners.** Removes the limitation on payment of unemployment benefits to laid off employees who are the adult children of a business owner. Under current law (enacted in 2010) the spouse, parent, or child (regardless of age) of a business owner may not receive more than five weeks of state unemployment benefits and up to 11 weeks of federal benefits. Previously, the limitation related to the children of business owners applied only to children who were minors. The provision is retroactive to July 1, 2010.
- 2 Extended benefits trigger.** Makes a change to the state's threshold for participating in the federal-state extended benefits program by allowing a comparison between the current level of unemployment in the state and the unemployment rates over the same time period in any of the prior **three** years. Under current law, to participate in the extended benefits program, the state's current rate of unemployment must be at least 110 percent of the rate in the same time period in either of the prior **two** years. Congress, in enacting the most recent extension in December of 2010, modified the so-called "look-back" to allow for a three year comparison. This provision is retroactive to December 19, 2010, and expires when federal law no longer allows a three-year lookback period.