HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 602 DATE: March 6, 2013

Version: First engrossment

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Subject: Modifying unemployment benefit eligibility

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Section

- Additional unemployment benefits; when available. Authorizes the payment of additional unemployment benefits to an applicant who has stopped working because of a lockout.
- Eligibility conditions. Specifies that an applicant who is unemployed due to a lockout is eligible for additional benefits if the applicant meets current law eligibility requirements, has exhausted regular benefits, is not eligible for extended benefits, and the lockout is in active progress.
- Weekly benefit amount. Sets the additional benefit amount equal to the weekly amount for regular benefits.
- 4 Maximum amount of unemployment benefits. Removes duration limits as long as a lockout is in active progress.
- 5 **Maximum experience rated employers.** Charges the cost of additional benefits to employers at the maximum experience rating through an administrative penalty.
- **Administrative penalties.** Provides for payment to the trust fund by an employer of additional benefits paid to an applicant during a lockout.
- **Public subsidies for organizations engaged in employee lockouts; penalties.** Establishes penalties to impose on an employer engaged in a lockout and who has been the recipient of a public subsidy of at least \$150,000. The penalty may equal the amount of the subsidy.