

February 19, 1951.
Social Security.

House File 461
By FREY, SCHROEDER, JONES and JUDD.

Passed House, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Passed Senate, Date
Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....
Approved

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend section ninety-six point three (96.3), ninety-six point seven (96.7), and ninety-six point nineteen (96.19), Code 1950, relating to unemployment compensation and unemployment benefits; to redetermine benefits payable for partial unemployment; to change the limitation on benefit credits; and the manner in which benefits are charged; and to increase the allowable weekly benefit amount.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. Section ninety-six point nineteen (96.19),
2 Code 1950, subsection ten (10), is hereby amended by striking
3 the words "three (3) as they appear in the last lines of
4 paragraphs b and c, and inserting in lieu thereof the words
5 "five" (5).

1 Sec. 2. Section ninety-six point three (96.3), subsection
2 three (3) is hereby amended by striking from line six (6) the
3 word "three" (3) and substituting in lieu thereof the word
4 "five" (5).

1 Sec. 3. Section ninety-six point three (96.3), Code
2 1950, subsection four (4) is hereby amended by striking from
3 lines seven (7) and eight (8) the words "twenty-two dollars
4 and fifty cents" (\$22.50) and inserting in lieu thereof the

5 words "thirty dollars" (\$30.00).

1 Sec. 4. Section ninety-six point three (96.3), subsection
2 five (5) is hereby amended by striking from line thirteen (13)
3 the word "one-third" ($\frac{1}{3}$) and inserting in lieu thereof the
4 word "one-half" ($\frac{1}{2}$).

1 Sec. 5. Section ninety-six point three (96.3), subsection
2 five (5) is hereby amended by striking from line fifteen (15)
3 the words "one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) and inserting
4 in lieu thereof the words "two hundred dollars" (\$200.00),

1 Sec. 6. Section ninety-six point seven (96.7), Code 1950,
2 subsection three (3), paragraph a, subparagraph three (3) is
3 hereby amended by striking from lines three (3) the word
4 one-third" ($\frac{1}{3}$), and inserting in lieu thereof the word
5 "one-half" ($\frac{1}{2}$), and further by striking the words "one
6 hundred fifty dollars" (\$150.00) from line five (5) of said
7 subparagraph, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "two
8 hundred dollars" (\$200.00).

1 Sec. 7. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable
2 beginning with the quarter commencing July 1, 1951.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 461

Sections 1, 2 and 3. This amendment is designed to increase weekly benefits of eligible workers and is primarily needed by workers in the lower income brackets. The increase is from \$22.50 to \$30 per week. Benefit amounts should be tied to wages and the cost of living since unemployment benefits are only to tide workers over periods of unemployment by meeting the basic costs of living which cannot be deferred. The existing rate of \$22.50 per week is not adequate to meet food and housing expenses alone. An increase to \$30 in allowable benefits will better enable the worker to be secure in his home while he seeks another job. This is in keeping with the recognized need in other states throughout the country.

Sections 4, 5 and 6. This amendment seeks to give a worker wage credits equal to one-half of his actual earnings in employment and no more. The increase of the \$150 quarterly limitation to \$200 is a step which should have been taken years ago. This original limitation is a carry-over from the first law and prior to amendments of recent years. It unjustly prohibits a worker from receiving credit for wages earned. A worker otherwise eligible should receive benefits based on all wage credits properly established, which are in turn based upon all of his earnings, subject, of course, to the limitation of \$200 each quarter.