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**SENATE BILL 6441**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Stanford, Keiser, Das, Hasegawa, Conway, and Saldaña

Read first time 01/16/20. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing unemployment insurance benefits for  
2 certain workers due to a lockout; and amending RCW 50.20.010.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 50.20.010 and 2019 c 50 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive waiting  
7 period credits or benefits with respect to any week in his or her  
8 eligibility period only if the commissioner finds that:

9 (a) He or she has registered for work at, and thereafter has  
10 continued to report at, an employment office in accordance with such  
11 regulation as the commissioner may prescribe, except that the  
12 commissioner may by regulation waive or alter either or both of the  
13 requirements of this subdivision as to individuals attached to  
14 regular jobs and as to such other types of cases or situations with  
15 respect to which the commissioner finds that the compliance with such  
16 requirements would be oppressive, or would be inconsistent with the  
17 purposes of this title;

18 (b) He or she has filed an application for an initial  
19 determination and made a claim for waiting period credit or for  
20 benefits in accordance with the provisions of this title;

1 (c) He or she is able to work, and is available for work in any  
2 trade, occupation, profession, or business for which he or she is  
3 reasonably fitted.

4 (i) To be available for work, an individual must be ready, able,  
5 and willing, immediately to accept any suitable work which may be  
6 offered to him or her and must be actively seeking work pursuant to  
7 customary trade practices and through other methods when so directed  
8 by the commissioner or the commissioner's agents. If a labor  
9 agreement or dispatch rules apply, customary trade practices must be  
10 in accordance with the applicable agreement or rules.

11 (ii) For the purposes of this subsection, "customary trade  
12 practices" includes compliance with an electrical apprenticeship  
13 training program that includes a recognized referral system under  
14 apprenticeship program standards approved by the Washington state  
15 apprenticeship and training council;

16 (d) He or she has been unemployed for a waiting period of one  
17 week unless the individual has been unemployed due to an employer  
18 lockout;

19 (e) He or she participates in reemployment services if the  
20 individual has been referred to reemployment services pursuant to the  
21 profiling system established by the commissioner under RCW 50.20.011,  
22 unless the commissioner determines that:

23 (i) The individual has completed such services; or

24 (ii) There is justifiable cause for the claimant's failure to  
25 participate in such services; and

26 (f) As to weeks beginning after March 31, 1981, which fall within  
27 an extended benefit period as defined in RCW 50.22.010, the  
28 individual meets the terms and conditions of RCW 50.22.020 with  
29 respect to benefits claimed in excess of twenty-six times the  
30 individual's weekly benefit amount.

31 (2) An individual's eligibility period for regular benefits shall  
32 be coincident to his or her established benefit year. An individual's  
33 eligibility period for additional or extended benefits shall be the  
34 periods prescribed elsewhere in this title for such benefits.

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