

**SSB 5963** - H AMD 573

By Representative Wood

OUT OF ORDER 4/10/2009

1 On page 23, after line 23, insert the following:

2  
3 "Sec. 4. RCW 50.20.120 and 2009 c 3 s 3 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 Except as provided in RCW 50.20.--- (section 2, chapter 3, Laws  
6 of 2009), benefits shall be payable as provided in this section.

7 (1) For claims with an effective date on or after April 4, 2004,  
8 benefits shall be payable to any eligible individual during the  
9 individual's benefit year in a maximum amount equal to the lesser of  
10 twenty-six times the weekly benefit amount, as determined in  
11 subsection (2) of this section, or one-third of the individual's  
12 base year wages under this title.

13 (2)(a) For claims with an effective date on or after April 24,  
14 2005, and before January 3, 2010, an individual's weekly benefit  
15 amount shall be an amount equal to three and eighty-five one-  
16 hundredths percent of the average quarterly wages of the  
17 individual's total wages during the two quarters of the individual's  
18 base year in which such total wages were highest.

19 (b) For claims with an effective date on or after January 3,  
20 2010:

21 (i) Except as provided in (ii) of this subsection, an  
22 individual's weekly benefit amount shall be an amount equal to three  
23 and nine-tenths percent of the average quarterly wages of the  
24 individual's total wages during the two quarters of the individual's  
25 base year in which such total wages were highest.

26 (ii) An individual's weekly benefit amount shall be an amount  
27 equal to three and eighty-five one-hundredths percent of the average

1 quarterly wages of the individual's total wages during the two  
2 quarters of the individual's base year in which such total wages  
3 were highest if the commissioner determines that:

4 (A) Additional compensation is payable pursuant to section 2002  
5 of the American recovery and reinvestment act of 2009 or a  
6 substantially similar federal law, or pursuant to RCW 50.20.---  
7 (section 2, chapter 3, Laws of 2009), or a substantially similar  
8 state law; or

9 (B) The balance in the unemployment compensation fund is an  
10 amount that will provide fewer than nine months of unemployment  
11 benefits.

12 (3) The maximum and minimum amounts payable weekly shall be  
13 determined as of each June 30th to apply to benefit years beginning  
14 in the twelve-month period immediately following such June 30th.

15 (a) The maximum amount payable weekly shall be either four  
16 hundred ninety-six dollars or sixty-three percent of the "average  
17 weekly wage" for the calendar year preceding such June 30th,  
18 whichever is greater.

19 (b) The minimum amount payable weekly shall be fifteen percent  
20 of the "average weekly wage" for the calendar year preceding such  
21 June 30th.

22 (4) If any weekly benefit, maximum benefit, or minimum benefit  
23 amount computed herein is not a multiple of one dollar, it shall be  
24 reduced to the next lower multiple of one dollar."

25  
26 Renumber the sections consecutively and correct any internal  
27 references accordingly.

28  
29 Correct the title.

30  
**EFFECT:** Specifies that, for claims on or after January 3, 2010,  
the multiplier used to calculate an individual's weekly benefit  
amount is 3.9 percent. However, the multiplier is 3.85 percent  
(same as current law) if additional federal or state compensation

is payable or the balance in the trust fund is less than 9 months of benefits.

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