

1 S.353

2 Senator Sirotkin moves that the Senate concur in the House proposal of
3 amendment with further amendment by striking out Sec. 8, unemployment
4 insurance rate schedule for benefit year beginning July 1, 2021, in its entirety
5 and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 8 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 8. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE RATE SCHEDULE AND
7 WEEKLY BENEFITS FOR YEAR BEGINNING JULY 2021

8 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of 21 V.S.A. § 1326 to the contrary, the
9 unemployment insurance contribution rate schedule for the rate year beginning
10 on July 1, 2021 shall not be more than two schedules higher than the
11 contribution rate schedule for the previous benefit year.

12 (b)(1) Notwithstanding any provision of 21 V.S.A. § 1338 to the contrary,
13 from the first day of the first calendar week in July 2021 through the day
14 before the first day of the first calendar week in July 2022:

15 (A) an individual's weekly benefit amount shall be equal to the
16 amount determined pursuant to 21 V.S.A. § 1338(e) increased by the
17 percentage determined pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection (b); and

18 (B) the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be equal to the
19 amount determined pursuant to 21 V.S.A. § 1338(f) increased by the
20 percentage determined pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection (b).

1 (2) On or before April 15, 2021, the Commissioner of Labor shall, based
2 on projected benefit claims for the year beginning with the first calendar week
3 of July 2021, determine a percentage increase in the amount of weekly benefits
4 that would result in the payment of an additional \$12,500,000.00 in benefits to
5 claimants during that year.

6 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply if, on April 15, 2021, the
7 balance of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund is either below
8 \$90,000,000.00 or projected to drop below that amount on or before December
9 31, 2021.