



STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
LT. GOVERNOR

January 17, 2025

Michigan House of Representatives
State Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Representatives,

Today, I am vetoing Enrolled House Bill 5827. Because the session at which this bill was passed has finally adjourned, my disapproval means it will not become law (1963 Const. Art. VI, sec 33).

This bill amends the Michigan Employment Security Act, MCL 421.27, as amended by 2020 PA 258, to increase the maximum number of weeks, from 20 to 26, an individual could qualify for unemployment benefits per benefit year for each eligible individual filing an initial claim on or after January 15, 2025. It also modifies the basis for computation of the weekly wage.

I support changes to the way our unemployment benefits are calculated. However, during this same session, I signed Enrolled Senate Bill 40 (2024 PA 173) into law. Enrolled Senate Bill 40 amended the same section of the Michigan Employment Security Act and similarly increased the maximum number of qualifying weeks from 20 to 26. It also contained an initial increase, as well as a formula for future increases, in the maximum weekly benefit rate for individuals and the unemployment benefit rate for each dependent. Because Enrolled House Bill 5827 was presented to me *after* Enrolled Senate Bill 40 was signed into law, signing this bill would override the changes already made to the Michigan Employment Security Act by Senate Bill 40, including the weekly increase in benefits.

Had Enrolled House Bill 5827 been presented to me at the same time as Enrolled Senate Bill 40, the two could have been reconciled. Unfortunately, that didn't happen. For the foregoing reasons, I am vetoing this bill.

Respectfully,

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor