

HOUSE No. 1629

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kenneth I. Gordon

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to protect unemployment benefits for furloughed federal employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Biele</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Mark J. Cusack</i>	<i>5th Norfolk</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>

<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 1629

By Mr. Gordon of Bedford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1629) of Kenneth I. Gordon and others for legislation to protect unemployment benefits for furloughed federal employees. Labor and Workforce Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to protect unemployment benefits for furloughed federal employees.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to protect employees, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 23 of Chapter 151A is hereby amended by inserting after subsection
2 (d), the following sentence:

3 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the waiting period of one week for
4 total or partial unemployment benefits referenced in subsection (a) shall not apply to any
5 employee of the federal government or federal agency whose employment has been interrupted,
6 suspended or terminated as a result of the shutdown or partial shutdown of the United States
7 government that began on December 22, 2018.

8 Section 2. Section 69c of Chapter 151A is hereby amended by inserting after subsection
9 (d) the following sentence: Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a back pay award
10 to an employee of the federal government or federal agency whose employment has been

11 interrupted, suspended or terminated as a result of the shutdown or partial shutdown of the
12 United States government that began on December 22, 2018 is not required to return
13 unemployment benefits provided under this statute.